INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Ross Rigney is Warden
County councillors choose Minden Hills reeve to lead the county into the new year

When Computers Go Bad
It was a scramble to bring you this week's Echo as this week's editorial explains

Short Guy & A Ladder
Steve Galea's Christmas tale is bound to give a smile to the most frazzled shopper

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

www.haliburtonecho.on.ca
email: echo@halhinet.on.ca

Tuesday, December 24, 2002
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DARREN LUM/Echo

Ho Ho Ho
Some Stuart Baker Elementary School students were dressed like mini -Santas and sounded like angels at the school's annual Christmas concert last week. The entire school sang and performed such Christmas favourites such as *The 12 days of Christmas.* to family and friends in the activity wing on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Legion thieves nabbed

Two Ottawa men face several charges after string of break-ins

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

Legions in central and eastern Ontario received the gift of peace a bit early this year when Ontario Provincial Police arrested two suspects in connection with approximately 25 robberies of Legion branches across Ontario.

"It had reached the point where Legion people were thinking in terms of what would happen when they were robbed, not if," says Ethel Galvin, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 president.

The Haliburton Legion branch was robbed in late October. This was after the OPP had put together the pattern the criminals were using in a seven-month crime spree which targeted Legions.

Ted Schendera, OPP media relations officer, says that the OPP is striving to create a seamless policing network across Ontario, regardless of whether an area is policed by OPP or not. It is through this network they were able to establish it was one group of individuals breaking into Legion branches.

"We think Legions became a target because they have a set of patterns of operations and a similar structure. There is alcohol, cigarettes, and cash on the premises and that's what was targeted," says Schendera.

Police, he says, ascertained

See **Police** page 10

Minden man dies in snowmobile crash

A tragic snowmobiling accident in the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Preserve claimed the life of Minden resident John Buchanan last week.

He was out with friends on the trails when it would appear he lost control of his snowmobile and crashed into a rockface at approximately 7:30 p.m. on December 18.

It was the second accident in two days at Haliburton Forest. The two accidents took place in different locations.

The first occurred at 2:50 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 17. Emergency services responded to the accident and a man was taken out to receive medical attention for what is thought to have been a broken leg, says Dysart et al Fire Chief Miles Maughan.

A day later Buchanan was travelling northbound, approximately 1.2 miles north of the base camp, at an unknown speed, when he entered a left curve and struck the rock face on the right side of the trail.

Maughan says they received the page at 7:45 p.m. and responded to the call by going to the scene with the Rescue Bogan to assist ambulance personnel to the scene. Buchanan was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident.

Haliburton Forest staff and members of the fire department assisted the OPP and the coroner in getting to the scene and providing lighting.

Buchanan was firefighter stationed at Pearson International Airport in Toronto and had been cottaging in Haliburton County for years before moving to the area with his wife Julie and two children Kenton McGann and Natasha McGann.

The funeral will be held today at 1 p.m. at the Gordon Monk Funeral Home chapel. A contingent of firefighters will attend the service in honour of a fellow firefighter's memory. Memorial donations to the Alzheimer's Society would be appreciated by the family.

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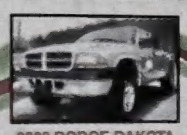
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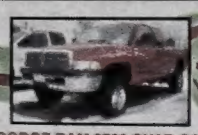
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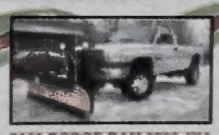
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Norwalk virus under control at long-term care centres

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

The Norwalk virus has not affected operations at either of Haliburton Highlands Health Services' sites.

Lynn Johnston, HHHS chief nursing officer, told the board of directors during their recent meeting that the Norwalk Virus or a similar virus causing vomiting and diarrhea did affect a few of the staff but none of the patients had contracted it. However, 15 long-term care residents were affected.

She says staff followed the Extendicare protocol and installed hand washing stations outside of each of the resident's rooms. The stations used an alcohol gel - more effective than soap and water. Part of the protocol, she explained, was limiting staff to working at only one site and keeping the cook, for example, in the kitchen. Patients and residents agreed to be isolated and were served meals in their rooms to limit contact risk.

"I'm hoping it's been contained," says Johnson.

A press release from the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge Health Unit states there have been many cases of people in Haliburton County exhibiting signs of Norwalk.

The Norwalk virus is the cause of gastroenteritis causing nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Some people may also get abdominal pain, headaches, low-grade fever or a combination of all these.

The virus spreads easily through contact with surfaces such as in bathrooms, door handles or from food that has been handled by an infectious person. The virus can remain on a surface for up to 12 days.

Outbreaks are not new despite the high publicity the Norwalk Virus has received. Shirely Mitchell, a nurse with the communicable disease control program, says there have been 41 different outbreaks in the long-term care facilities and hospitals in the HKPR area in the past year alone.

Johnson says the protocols in place seemed to have worked well and the residents are looking forward to returning to the schedule of holiday entertainment and visitors.

Extendicare has also re-opened its doors in Haliburton to visitors.

Trail development gets big boost from the province

The Ontario government is investing in multi-use trail activity and tourism in Haliburton County.

This project brings together local organizations in a collaborative effort to develop, enhance and promote 13 trails and tour destinations. It will provide a variety of unique interpretive and recreational trails and tours for those who visit and live in Haliburton County.

"This Rural Economic Development program initiative will help increase economic and tourism benefits in Haliburton, while also promoting this province to the world as a great place to visit," said MPP Chris Hodgson. "By enhancing tourism opportunities in Haliburton, this project will create at least 50 jobs and 70 community partnerships."

The balance of the $1.1 million project will be provided by Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network, County of Haliburton, Haliburton County Snowmobile Association, Park to Park Trail Association, Haliburton Highlands Nordic Trails Association, Ski Friends of the Frost, YMCA Camp Wanakita, The Gull River Association, Sir Sandford Fleming College's Campus Trail, Haliburton County Development Corporation Arts Committee's Haliburton Sculpture Forest, Friends of Minden Hills' Riverwalk Project, Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association's Interpretive Visitor Centre and Fist Hatchery Marketing and Haliburton Highlands Learning Program.

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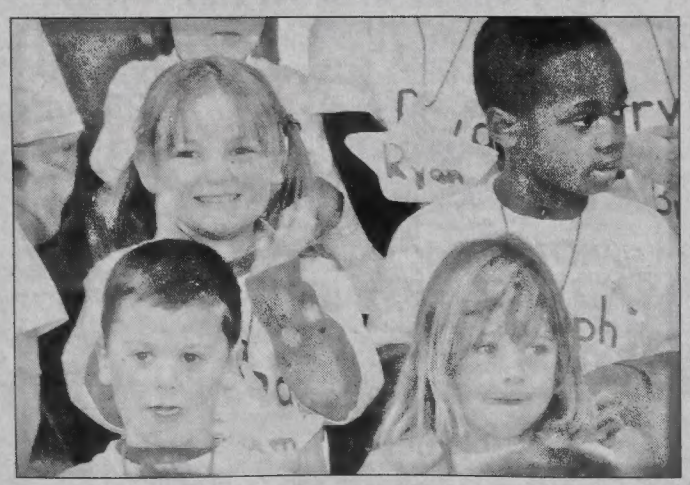
For the children: *Stuart Baker Elementary School showcased a youthful display of talent*



Images from the SBES Christmas Concert

The entire school put on a show for parents and family on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 18. Children dressed as mini-Santas, Elvis' and reindeer and sang various Christmas songs. The SBES performance helped to ring in the holidays.

Photos by Darren Lum

County council briefs

Return to seller: LCBO urged to pay for empties

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

The following are brief reports from Wednesday's meeting of county council with the new warden for the year, Minden Hills Reeve Ross Rigney, in the chair.

If county council gets its way, the LCBO will soon be offering a returnable bottle policy similar to The Beer Store's.

Council endorsed The LCBO Deposit and Return Act being proposed by an MPP.

"I strongly support it," said Dysart et al Deputy-reeve Bill Davis. "It's possibly the first thrust in getting our streets and sideroads cleaned up."

He said he was impressed by the cleanliness of the provinces which have the deposit and return policy already in place.

Rigney agreed. He said that when he lived in Alberta, which already offers the policy, kids get petty cash by rounding up the bottles and getting paid for the returnables. "It's the greatest thing."

Davis said the legislation shouldn't stop at the LCBO. "All manufacturers of any beverage should be made to make them returnable," he said.

County politicians gathered with this year's warden, Ross Rigney, front and centre, at Wednesday's county council meeting. Back row from left: Highlands East Deputy-reeve Chuck Viner, Highlands East Reeve Keith Tallman and Dysart et al Deputy-reeve Bill Davis. Front row: Algonquin Highlands Deputy-reeve Don Shortreed, Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey, Rigney, Algonquin Highlands Reeve Eleanor Harrison and Minden Hills Deputy-reeve Jim McMahon.

Groundwater survey

Haliburton County has been a priority for the groundwater study being conducted throughout the Trent watershed, CAO Gary King said.

The Highlands portion of the study, which concentrates on well head protection and acquifer identification, should be available for review by late January.

"It will require some significant discussion and everyone will need to implement policies in their official plans for groundwater protection," King said.

"I'm pleased [with the study]," he concluded. "Although they were late in getting started, they've made up for it."

Environment committee

The county agreed to form a Joint Environment and Planning Advisory Committee comprised of four elected representatives and five non-elected members.

This committee will replace the County Advisory Committee on the Environment, which the county disbanded last month. Members of that committee, as well as any other members of the public, are welcome to submit their name for selection on the new committee.

The new committee will also absorb the county's headwaters committee.

Canoe FM

Instead of outrightly rejecting a request for a donation from Canoe FM, county council agreed to defer the debate to its budget deliberations.

The county has a policy stating it will not fund committee organizations but also has a "notwithstanding clause" to allow it to make exceptions during budget negotiations. For instance, last year the county gave a grant to the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association's fish hatchery as well as the Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network.

"Our policy is not to fund community organizations but that's exactly what we're supposed to do," said Dysart et al Deputy-reeve Bill Davis, who seemed to be in favour of helping the new community radio station.

King said there was lengthy discussion at budget time about the policy. County council decided to keep the policy in place, he said, "for fear of opening the floodgates to other community organizations, and

See County page 5

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Ross Rigney chosen as county warden

Minden Hills Reeve Ross Rigney got one of the best birthday presents he could wish for last Tuesday night when his fellow county councillors chose him as the head of the county's government.

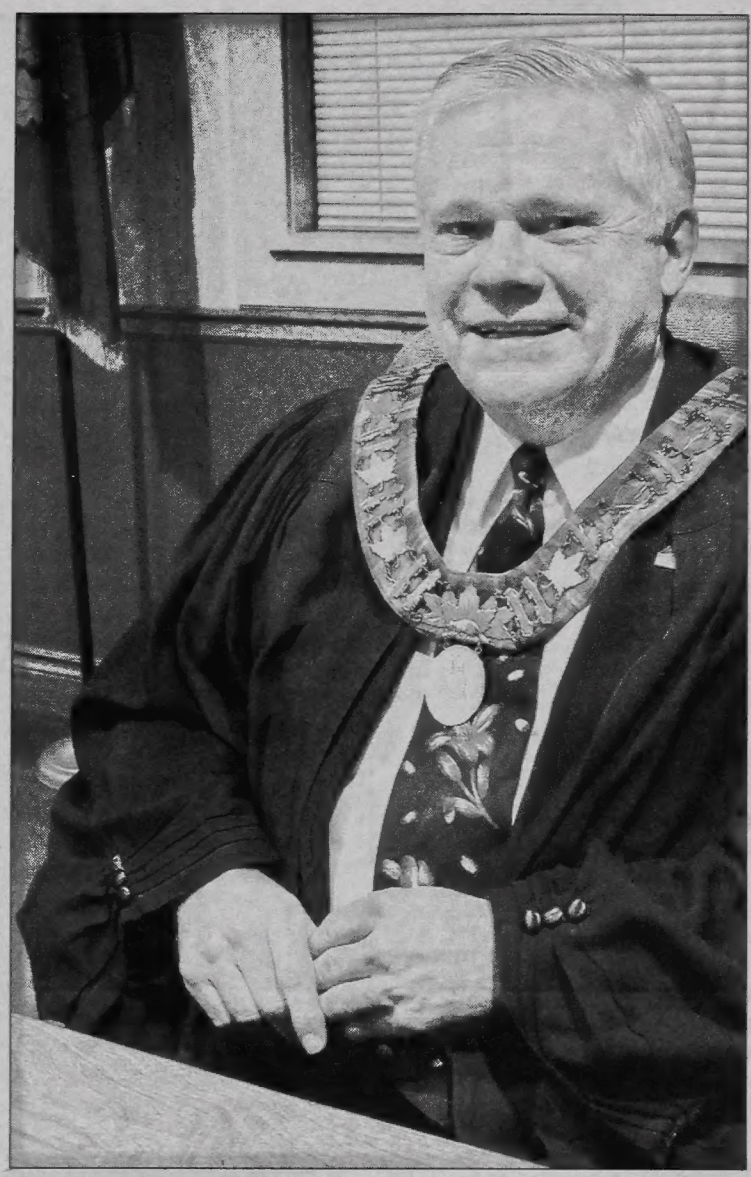
As the new county warden, Rigney says that the new accessibility committee and emergency services committee will be among his top priorities.

Rigney thanked his fellow county councillors for their vote of confidence and looked forward to their support as the county prepared to face the many issues that will come up next year.

Although he's been a longtime proponent of one-tier (county) government, Rigney said that the current structure of four large municipalities is an acceptable compromise. "We can still make it work by wearing our county hats," he said in his short acceptance speech.

Other issues the county must address include the suggestion that it take over responsibility for waste management. "Cost increases are almost out of control," he said. "As a county, we should be able to plan a long-term strategy."

After the swearing in ceremony, Rigney was presented with a birthday cake. *M.P.*



MARTHA PERKINS//Echo

Minden Hills Reeve Ross Rigney was chosen as this year's warden at last Tuesday night's inaugural. He was nominated by Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey, who outlined the many ways Rigney has been involved in the county's life since retiring to the family's cottage on Canning Lake in 1994. The former reeve of Snowdon, Rigney also filled in as the county's CAO and Chamber of Commerce manager.

County can tap into money for the homeless

from page 4

there are many of them."

Davis requested that the Canoe FM request be deferred to budget time and other councillors agreed.

Homelessness

Any organization that deals with homeless people is entitled to apply to a $107,000 fund for this area.

The money is being held by the City of Kawartha Lakes as part of the social service alliance, but Algonquin Highlands Deputy-reeve Eleanor Harrison said "We are entitled to the money as much as anyone else."

People from Haliburton are also on the committee which distributes the money.

County map

In just a few weeks a new map of the Highlands, produced by county staff, will be available.

The county has spent $13,500 on producing 50,000 copies of the map. Most will be distributed through the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce; municipalities will also receive copies.

Because it got some of the information from the Ministry of Natural Resources, the county is not allowed to make money on the project. It can charge for the map simply to recoup printing and administrative costs.

King noted that the digital maps from the MNR were not of good quality, a significant problem that had to be overcome.

Doctor incentives

Council supported a motion that calls for the province to disallow municipalities from offering incentives to doctors to locate in their area.

"We can't compete," said Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey.

There was no other debate on the motion.

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Local businesses benefit from HCDC's early Christmas gift

ALLISON TAYLOR
Staff Reporter

The Haliburton County Development Corporation got an early Christmas present from Industry Canada.

Last week at the Delta Pinestone Resort, Secretary of State Andy Mitchell and local MP John O'Reilly were on hand to present the development corporation with a $785,000 cash infusion.

"In its 17th year of operation, the HCDC continues to play a crucial role in the economic development of Haliburton County, acting as a catalyst for continual growth," O'Reilly said.

The majority of the money, $750,000, will go towards operating costs for the development corporation, said HCDC General Manager Andy Campbell.

The money will help offset such things as rent space and economic development work, Mitchell said.

"The Government of Canada is collaborating with this important community partner to encourage new development that will benefit the citizens of this region," Mitchell said.

Mitchell said that HCDC is a successful initiative because it is a "bottom-up" organization. Decisions are made by a local board of directors, which allows the HCDC to identify and designate how funding will be spread out to best fit the county. Before the funding announcement, Mitchell and O'Reilly met with the Board of Directors to discuss a few issues of interest.

Campbell said that Industry Canada usually subsidizes HCDC with $250,000 annually, but t his time the development corporation applied for a three-year proposal, worth $750,000. The additional $35,000 is earmarked for Connect Haliburton, to help offset wages for a coordinator.

"We are extremely pleased," Campbell said.

Before the funding announcement, Mitchell and O'Reilly met with the HCDC Board of Directors.

DARREN LUM/Echo

Haliburton-Victoria-Brock MP John O'Reilly listens as Secretary of State Andy Mitchell announces that the Haliburton County Development Corporation will receive an extra $785,000 to assist local businesses.

A Christmas Wish * A Christmas Wish * A Christmas Wish

Holiday Wishes

As years go by, we are sure you will agree time seems to move faster and faster. Here we are with another Christmas Season upon us.

Our wish for you this season is that each and every one of us takes enough time from our busy lives to embrace and enjoy all the good things this time of year has to offer.

Throughout the year each of our lives are filled with many trials and tribulations. It is times like these that make reflection on our many blessings a necessity in today's society.

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"Wishing all a healthy and safe holiday season"

Pick up your free Winter Guide to find out what to do during the break

Health board lobbies for under-funding to stop

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

The following is a collection of brief reports from the Haliburton Highlands Health Services December 19 board meeting.

Chief Executive Officer Keith Sansford reported on his successful meeting with Ministry of Health officials and the executive director of the Joint Policy Planning Committee of Ontario.

Sansford explained that the discussion revolved around how HHHS does not get the same recognition with regard to the funding formula as other hospitals of comparable size. Sansford says HHHS continues to be under-funded by $3- to $5-million directly as a result of the funding formula.

He says HHHS is unique in some ways such as the fluctuating seasonal population. However, other areas of Ontario also have unique problems and they are all lobbying to get those factors recognized within the funding formula.

In response to the frustration expressed by board members over why they are still facing a funding shortage, Chief Financial Officer Cathy Outram said that the funding model changes every year and has been getting increasingly better. She says another factor in chronic under-funding is that, as they continue to grow and establish services, they add costs while older hospitals have more historically fixed costs.

"Out of the four HKPR (Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge) hospitals, we had the largest percentage funding increase," says Sansford.

Outram says HHHS is 25 per cent under-funded according to the ministry's formula.

Doctor incentive

County council's representative on the board, Minden Reeve Ross Rigney, was asked to explain why county council supported a motion calling for the province to disallow municipalities from offering incentives to doctors to locate in their area.

"Was there any commitment from the county to work for the betterment of health care?" asked Peter White. "As board members we can't do it all. Will any support be forthcoming?"

"We'll do whatever we can to get doctors here," Rigney said before adding, "We've never viewed it as our responsibility before. Now municipalities are getting involved. There are two reeves on council who don't have an interest in this, they have other things on their minds."

"That's disturbing. This (doctor shortage) has far reaching effects...It would be nice to have something positive come out of the county," White responded.

Jack Brezina, HHHS chair, jumped in to say that Haliburton County CAO Gary King has been a wealth of information for the recruitment committee. Rigney says that having King sitting on that committee shows the county is interested.

Foundation

Dale Walker, HHHS Foundation executive director, says the Christmas fundraising "star" campaign is going exceptionally well this year.

She says last year they raised $45,000, up from $15,000 the year before, while this year they are already at $62,000, a number that was dated by the time she was speaking to the board.

Walker says a number of people are making donations in memory of, or in honour of, various individuals and organizations as well as regular gifts. Walker says she does not have any specific reasons as to why they are ahead at this point in time.

Board changes

Kim Stamp has resigned as vice-chair of the board due to business and time commitments. Brezina, on behalf of the board, accepted her resignation with regret and thanked her for her contributions. Stamp has agreed to stay on the board as a trustee. Jeanne Anthon will step in until the term is concluded in June of 2003.

Regional lab?

Sansford discussed negotiations with the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge Health Unit and other partners in establishing a regional lab.

A meeting will be held on January 10 to discuss the proposal. Sansford says it would be really beneficial to HHHS since they do not have an in-house lab but other hospitals that do have in-house labs need to have special negotiations.

Communications

Outram says they are moving forward with the establishment of a stand-alone computer that will be wirelessly connected to the Haliburton Family Health Centre to enable doctors at the hospital in Haliburton being able to access patient files.

Dr. Bob Heyes commented it would be extremely beneficial and save them time, duplication and, therefore, money in the long term. He says sometimes tests are ordered in hospital that have already been done by a doctor, and if they could access those results, the system would be far more effective.

"Every hour of every business day we could be saving money by not duplicating," says Heyes.

This computer will not be networked with existing systems in order to protect the privacy of the information.

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(and above all a safe holiday season)
Bill Davis
Deputy Reeve Of Dysart

Merry Christmas
May the true meaning of Christmas not be lost in the hustle and bustle of the season, but bring hope, peace on earth and good will to all men.
Best wishes for a healthy and happy 2003
RUTH & DOUG MITCHELL

Life without a hard drive

echo **editorial**

martha perkins

The Echo could not be produced without computers. There is no facet of its production that happens without some sort of electronic intervention. Even our photos are computerized images. So dependent are we on computers that our printing plant can no longer work from printed copies of the page – we have to, as in we have no other choice but to, send electronic images of the pages. (In the past few weeks we've been able to do that without leaving the office thanks to high-speed internet.)

So you can imagine how we all felt on Saturday morning when we realized that one of our servers, a little grey box that links all of our computers together, was kaput. Even Dr. Norton and his utilities couldn't help this sick little patient. We're hoping that a brilliant computer geek will be able to retrieve this information, and we do have back-up (from about a month ago), but even geeks have to have time off for Christmas. That means that, for this week, and possibly next, we're on our own.

Of course, the meltdown happened to the server that stores all of our editorial copy and photos. We were able to find copies of most of this week's stories and ads on other hard drives, but it's the stories that we forward from past weeks which are lost, as well as everything from the past few months. Most writers at *The Echo* have copies of their stories stored on their hard drives, but a certain editor is known to break all the rules. She writes directly on the server that crashed. Obviously Santa is going to have to re-arrange his schedule on Tuesday night to avoid her house.

So we're going a bit blind this week. We've retrieved everything we can and hope we haven't lost anything major. (If you've sent us anything that hasn't yet appeared, please give the editor a call.) A big *mea culpa* if this creates problems for any of our readers.

Will we give up our dependence on computers and go back to our manual Underwoods? We can't, nor do we want to. But we have learned the importance of back-up and wish to send that message to all our readers who have blind faith in their computer's indestructibility. Just paste Murphy's Law to your screen the next time you think backing up is an inconvenient waste of time.

But here it is, Sunday afternoon, and we're ready to start laying out this week's paper. It's been a bit of a scramble to get to this point, but we're here. Christmas is only a few days away and everyone is really looking forward to a bit of a break with our friends and families. (Chances are none of us will turn on a computer for a few days.)

And so, from all of us to all of you, we hope that the only thing that crashes this Christmas are all those "I-can't-believe-I-ate-that-much" revellers who drop contentedly onto the couch after dinner.

Merry Christmas!

Christmas shopping in Haliburton *photo by DARREN LUM/Echo*

'Tis better to give

the not so great **outdoorsman**

steve galea

Everyone has heard the old cliché that it's better to give than to receive. And while I'm pretty sure this was originally meant to refer to any candy that contained broccoli as the main ingredient, these days it also holds some significance for the outdoorsman.

That's because Christmas is the one time of year where the outdoorsman can hunt, trap or fish and justify it by saying that he's going to "git some" Christmas cheer for family and friends. Only someone with a Grinch-like disposition would try to stop a man from doing this and, even then, she's likely to recant after you show up wearing camouflage and hip waders for a shopping trip into town.

Let's start with the basics, shall we?

Contrary to popular belief, tasteful gift giving is not as easy as just skinning an animal and handing over various parts. Anyone who would do that has obviously never seen modern gift-wrapping techniques. I can attest from personal experience just how important gift presentation is. Why, last year, I took the liberty of giving my sister not only the smoked raccoon meat but also the salted pelt, as well as a matching pike bone needle and deer sinew thread. Maybe I was a bit too generous considering she insisted that I not "git" her anything, but, you know, I was feeling real Christmassy and I noticed that she was kind of short on good warm hats.

Let me tell you, when she undid that pretty bow and opened that shiny wrapping paper, her heart practically jumped out of her body and her high-pitched, hysterical screams of delight were nearly enough to set off several fire alarms as well as her own personal sprinkler system. Even after I departed, she remained speechless. To this day, her boyfriend calls it a Christmas miracle.

But, unfortunately, game laws and bag limits prevent you from giving everyone these special gifts. That's why an outdoorsperson needs to be creative. I hope Martha Stewart will forgive me for stepping into her territory but the things you can do with animal hooves alone could fill a television show. No sir, cloven hooves aren't just for table legs anymore.

And what homemaker couldn't use a set of moose antler spatulas? But let's not stop there. It's been my experience that women just can't say enough things about a set of genuine deer antler earrings. My own wife was so impressed with the matching 8-pointers that "Santa" gave her that she just set them aside, released a solitary tear and swore that she'd save them for a special occasion, although I was kind of surprised to learn that dancing on my grave constituted that sort of event. Yet no matter how much it would alleviate her grief, I cautioned her against doing it in hunting season.

Of course, enterprising outdoorsmen shouldn't forget about the plethora of different scent glands that game animals contain. I once concocted a potent mixture of skunk, weasel, deer, fox, and otter musk into a fancy perfume.

Naturally, before giving it out, I field-tested on myself at a Christmas party held at my wife's ex-workplace. This simple step ensures that no one gets offended on Christmas Day.

But I needn't have worried. On the way there, Carol was so impressed that she kept the car windows rolled down so that we'd share that wondrous aroma with the rest of the world. Once at the party, however, people kept asking me what died, so much so, that I finally got tired of reciting the ingredients.

We left soon after and, oddly enough, Carol was actually relieved to see me get all the attention. I still don't know why — those antler earrings looked great on her.

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Martha Perkins, Managing Editor
Sandra Bishop, Accounting, administration
Darren Lum, Sheryl Loucks, Reporters
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A cottage Christmas

down our **road**

sharon lynch

WHEN ALICE HEADED OUT that afternoon, no one could have been more surprised than she as to her destination. In fact, if her best friend Kay or sister Liz had said Alice would be spending Christmas at the cottage, she would have laughed out loud. But that was before this morning, when Gerald told her he wanted a divorce.

She had sat there on the living room couch as though frozen, thinking this is a dream and if I move it will all disappear and things will be the same as they were when I was drinking my morning coffee. But what if, she wondered, what if I do move and Gerald is still saying these things and nothing's like it was an hour ago. So she just kept sitting, not moving, until finally Gerald threw up his hands in disgust and left.

Then Alice turned her head and looked at the Christmas tree, all glassy sparkle with presents saying 'love' heaped underneath and she thought she was going to throw up. So she did the one thing any self-respecting fifty year old woman would do at a time like that. She grabbed her purse, her coat and the car keys and went for a drive.

She hadn't planned on going anywhere in particular but as soon as she was behind the wheel, the idea came to her. She'd drive to the cottage. Maybe she'd then turn right around and drive back again - she didn't know yet but she knew she had to get away. The cottage was far enough, at least for now. It had always been her sanctuary, her escape and boy, did she need those qualities at this moment.

The miles fell away effortlessly, despite the traffic on the highway. Cars loaded with people and presents passed her by; some with children or dogs' faces pressed against the glass as they pulled away from her even, cautious pace. Alice didn't want to speed. Something told her if she put her foot down too hard on the gas pedal, it might push clear through the floorboards. And then where would she be? All over the highway. Merry Christmas Gerald. No, she told herself, he wasn't worth it. Just breathe and drive, she thought, breathe and drive.

The landscape had changed. As though crossing an invisible border, Alice now found herself in winter. There were small piles of white rimming the sides of the road and the fields and trees had a smooth and sleepy look, snow blanketing everything. She drove on, thankful she had thought to put on her boots with her coat. The cottage would be like a freezer. If she went inside. If she decided to stay.

It looked different when Alice made her way up the driveway. There wasn't too much snow; she could manage easily. Gone were the beach towels on the clothesline, the red petunias under the windows. The place looked pale and quiet and cold. When she opened the kitchen door, she was surprised to see her breath. There was plenty of kindling and firewood from Thanksgiving weekend and before she knew it, she had a fire going in the woodstove. It smelt good. Comforting. Far from the living room with the presents under the Christmas tree. She decided to stay, at least for a day or two.

Alice called her son and daughter, told them she was at the cottage and would talk to them when she returned and yes, she was fine. Merry Christmas. She knew they would worry and wonder, but she needed to be where she was. Carrying more wood in from under the cottage, she realized she needed food. There was a store back out on the highway and if she hurried, she'd get there before it closed for Christmas Eve.

Kraft dinner, brown beans, soup, bread, butter, coffee - Alice didn't pay much attention to what she grabbed off the shelf but it seemed a good enough mix. With these and a big bottle of water, she drove back to the cottage in the thick dusk. Coloured lights shone from porches and evergreen branches, watching her pass silently. There were no other cars on the road now. When Alice pushed open the cottage door this time, there was warmth and she realized she was hungry.

She made herself toast and heated up the beans and they tasted good. There was a full moon and on a whim, Alice went out and cut down a small spruce on the edge of the driveway and brought it inside. She stood it in a bucket with some old barbeque briquets she found in the storage room and then decided to decorate it. By now Alice wondered if she had lost her mind completely but didn't really care. She twisted aluminum foil into all kinds of shapes - stars and bells and reindeers. There was popcorn in a glass jar and she popped it, then strung it carefully, with great concentration. In the bottom of her bedroom closet, she found a floral skirt Gerald had given her ten years ago and went to work on it with scissors. In no time, she had streamers which she trailed along the spruce branches.

Before she went to bed that night, Alice took a final look at the tree. It was unusual and she had made all of it herself. She decided it was time for her life to be the same. Merry Christmas Alice, she whispered, turning out the lights.

pic *of the* past

Betty Austin was delighted when she received this photo in a Christmas card from her high school friend Sharon (Parish) Poirier, whose father used to own Stan's Shell on the top of Dover's Hill in Haliburton. The picture was taken in 1954 in front of the Haliburton District High School, now the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. On the left is Lynda Brodhagen, who used to live in what is now *The Echo's* home, joined by Betty Austin and Wendy Bishop, whose father, Harry, was the village's dentist. She notes that, in those days, no matter how cold it got, the dress code for girls and women did not include slacks. Our thanks to Mrs. Austin for sharing these memories with us.

Meanwhile, we got a phone call from Jean Casey, whose great grandmother and grandparents were in last week's Pic of the Past, which was submitted to us by Doris Wheeler. We thought the white tent in front of Wigamog indicated that everyone was gathered for a wedding. Instead, she points out that since her grandfather, Robert Gould, was the owner of Wigamog at the time, and he was a Jehovah's Witness, the people were probably there for a circuit assembly. She estimates the photo was taken 90 years ago. As well, going deeper into your memories, the recent Pic of the Past of Dysart's town hall was of the second hall in the village, not the first.

letters to the editor

Skilled trades require literacy

To the Editor:

Last week I was interested to find the article which outlined some new initiatives regarding granting alternate diplomas to students who have difficulty completing the Ontario literacy test requirements.

It was suggested that offering such an alternative might reduce the problem Ontario is experiencing with repect to skills shortages: "A staff report explained that without the alternative diploma, the skilled trades would continue to see a decline in job candidates".

I am very concerned that apprenticeship candidates may get the wrong message. Today's skilled trades require individuals who are strong in math, science, computers, technological studies and above all, literacy.

This can be attributed to the fact that our technical world is changing exponentially. All trades have become highly complex, and consequently, all of the support materials have become extremely academic in nature. In addition to completing a grueling exam (up to 6 hours in duration), persons practicing their trades are frequently required to take upgrade courses, and I have it on good authority that these courses are very challenging indeed.

As an industrial woodworker, I can assure readers that the skilled trades are a fulfilling and rewarding career path. Right now (and in the immediate future) the time is right to enter this field due to extreme shortages in virtually every trade. I have, however, three pieces of advice to students who are considering this bright future: stay in school, keep the marks up, and pass that literacy test!

Rob Stonehouse
Technological/Business Studies
Department Head
HHSS

Sustainable Forestry Association not abandoning goals

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Lou Trepanier's remark concerning the imminent demise of the Haliburton Highland Sustainable Forestry Association (HHSFA). It is the understanding of the directors of our association that Mr. Trepanier recently withdrew from his directorship with us because of his countless other responsibilities.

The HHSFA has deliberated at length with Peter Hynard of the Ministry of Natural Resources, concerning a budget to organize a private-lands forest management company that can best service

See **Sustainable** *page 18*

An apology to Boonieville cartoonist Charlie Telejeur, and to our readers, for the absence of a cartoon in this week's issue. We produced the newspaper on Sunday instead of Monday this week, but forgot to inform Charlie of an altered deadline. We know Gus and the Boonieville gang would want to wish you a joyous holiday season.

Police work together to solve province-wide Legion thefts

from page 1

the same method of entry was used in each case: the telephone wires were cut, alarms disabled and all locked doors pried open. He says the identical method of entry was used to break into the Bobcaygeon Legion in August as was used in the Coboconk Legion robbery in September.

Two suspects have been identified from the Ottawa region, a 34-year-old man and a 26-year-old man.

On Dec. 16, the OPP's Rural and Agricultural Crime Team members assisted officers from the Ottawa Tactical Unit and Ottawa Police Service in executing two search warrants at the suspects' separate homes and arrested them without incident. During the search, officers seized maps, cash, break and enter tools, and other related items to break and enters. A 2002 GMC truck was also seized in regards to proceeds of crime.

One of the men is charged with 21 counts of break and enter (including Haliburton's Legion), breach of probation, proceeds of crime and possession of break and enter tools. The other is charged with break and enter, possession of break and enter tools and of stolen property.

Both men were remanded into custody and then transported to Lindsay Court for a bail hearing.

Schendera says aside from the fact that Legions do operate based on a pattern, it is unclear why an organization based on providing a positive service for veterans and often responsible for community donations was targeted.

He did add that there are other suspects and the investigation is continuing.

Galvin says they are continuing to fund-raise to cover the cost of the Haliburton Legion theft and break-in damage; several doors, desks, a safe and other items were wrecked. She says it appears their insurance company will be settling for most of the costs incurred.

DARREN LUM/Echo

Spreading Yuletide cheer

Last week, the local musical group In Harmony visited with residents of Echo Hills and Parklane Apartments to spread some Christmas cheer. From right are Lawerence van Lieshout, Rose Barry, Barb Fawcett, Toos Reid, and Juliane van Lieshout.

Snowmobile oval races cancelled

The Highland Cup snowmobile oval races scheduled for the weekend of January 25 and 26, 2003 have been cancelled due to insurance and sponsorship issues.

The dance planned for Saturday night will continue as planned, featuring Ron Nigrini and Western Radio.

For further information, contact organizer Harold Foyster at 457-2278.

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Absent: Dorothy & Brian Menton

THE
ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

THE ECHO

Tuesday, December 24, 2002 *sports & recreation* Page 12

Storm suspend for season's holidays, resume on Dec. 27.
See past weeks stories on next page.

Red Hawks enter Xmas holidays with win

DARREN LUM/Echo

HHSS Forward Brad Mickle flies through the key beyond a Falcons defender in the second half. The Red Hawks won 46-38 due to great team play throughout the game last week at home.

BRAD MICKLE

Special to the Echo

HHSS 46 FFSS 38

The Senior men's basketball team ignored the past few weeks of tough road games to focus on their last home game before the holidays against the Fenelon Falls Falcons.

This was the second meeting between the Falcons and the Red Hawks since the HHSS season home opener that saw the home team come from behind to win. The Falcons appeared to be haunted by it.

At first, both teams started off strong, pushing the ball down court, looking for open shots and using teammates for open looks at the basket. As the game wore on the Falcons were getting sloppy.

At the mid-point of the second quarter the Red Hawks head coach Paul Longo demanded, "Get the ball down to the big man down low and they will foul."

The Red Hawks, responded, finishing the half with three and the game with 15 foul line trips. Despite the opportunity to take the lead before half time, the Red Hawks had problems sinking the free throws, shooting a dismal 2-7 at the foul line for the half.

The Red Hawks though, came out strong for the second half. The Falcons looked spent and started to foul, putting Red Hawks at the line. Offensive and defensive rebounds were pulled down by the Red Hawks who were winning battles all over the court. It was clear the momentum had shifted to the home team.

By the start of the fourth quarter, the Red Hawks knew time was on their side and that ball possession was key to holding the lead. HHSS spread the ball around, looking for the extra pass and the easy basket. Matt Sansford extended the Red Hawks' lead to 11 points when he scored two easy buckets for 42-31.

Everything for the Red Hawks clicked. Offensively they created easy looks at the basket and forced turnovers in the Falcons zone with a full court press.

Coach Longo says the game was one of the best team games the team has played this year.

Team captain Andrew Mansfield said, "We played like a team which caused us to win like a team."

Mansfield contributed 12 points while the second highest scorer was Brad Mickle with eight points and Matt Sansford added three buckets in the final quarter, finishing with a total of six points. Defensively the Red Hawks were led by the big men in the key Ross Gerry, Andrew Sachs, and Martin Gage.

Their first action in the new year will be in a Lindsay tournament on Jan. 3 and 4.

—— files from Darren Lum ——

Hawks rolls over competition

Owen Shell and Kira Fry led the way with silver medal performances while Ashley Cameron earned bronze and Noelle Johnson earned a fourth place at a tournament on Wednesday, Dec. 18.

Left: Noelle Johnson works her opponent for a pin.

Right: Owen Shell grapples with an opposing wrestler, attempting to flip him.

Files and photos from Chase Rodley

SHARPLEY Source for sports.

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Peewee AE host tournament

SHERRILL SHERWOOD

Special to the Echo

The Minden arena was abuzz with music, laughter and fan's cheers on December 14 as the "Minden Subway" Peewee AE team hosted their tournament.

This event brought people from all over Ontario to the Highlands, including teams from Bracebridge, East Gwillimbury, Port Carling, Innisfil, Oro, Pelham and Stouffville. A well-organized raffle table and an excellently run $100.00 draw saw great crowds during the day.

The always encouraging management of this team is comprised of; Coach Dave Chapman, Assistant Coach David Martin, Trainer Brian Murray and Manager Hugh Nichol. In regular season play, the team has seen some notable wins and ties, as well as some tough losses.

The Bracebridge Bears arrived for an 8:00 a.m. game, hungry for a win against the Storm. Defenseman Dean Hutchinson proved to be a difficult barrier for the Bears with his speed, determination and brilliant positioning. Bracebridge found themselves ahead by two goals before Jay Winfield put one in for the Storm.

Three big saves by goalie Curtis Nichols in the last minute of the second period kept it at 2-1 Bracebridge. Before the game was over, the Bears would score three more, ending it 5-1.

Effective hitting and hustling by Ryan Smith set the tone for the exciting second game Storm played, versus Port Carling. The visitors scored on a long, hard shot in the first period and came on even stronger after that. J.R. Mills' amazing skating ability kept him a steady presence as he solidly gave and took hits. One of defenceman Robert Chapman's many passes to the forwards reached the stick of Logan Brown, who scored on a strategically placed shot to Port Carling's net.

Nice moves by Jason Chapman earned him a goal in the second period to put Storm ahead 2-1. With 2 men sitting in the (stuck) penalty box, Zach Prenger's amazing defensive plays kept the puck out of Storm's zone. Goalie Jordan Collins' great save during the long two minutes and again half-way through the second period kept the Storm in the lead. Back and forth play showed Port Carling had not given up and they thundered back with not one, but two goals in the final minute of play, to win 3-2.

Pairing up against the Stouffville Clippers for their final game of the day, the outlook was bright when Ryan Sherwood scored in the first minute of play.

Stouffville would clip three in Storm's net before John Murray, assisted by C.J. Clarkson, and then Kelsey Pierson answered back to tie it up. Another Stouffville goal was matched again by Kelsey, making it 4-4. With just over two minutes left,the Clippers moved ahead again and were able to stay there for a 5-4 win.

The Storm team went on an out-of-town scoring spree the following day in Gravenhurst. With a decisive 9-2 win, the boys went home to hang up their well-worn hockey gear, until their next game in Manvers on December 19.

DARREN LUM/Echo

A Storm defenseman ensures a clear sight path for his goaltender during third period action against Bracebridge.

Highland Storm Novice Bs play in the Petes' Memorial Centre

WENDY SISSON

Staff Reporter

The Highland Storm's minor novice team had a weekend of exhibition games. First was a trip to the home of the Peterborough Petes and the Memorial Centre to meet their rep team. After a thorough look about the centre—or running up and down to the of the centre—the boys caught some practice tips as the Petes themselves held a regular practice. Then it was off to the dressing room to get ready for the game. Of course these rooms are meant for much bigger 'boys' so our guys were having a great time just getting dressed for the game. Out on the ice it was business as usual only on alot more ice.

They played a 3 - 15 minute period game and never once showed signs of exhaustion. The game would end with a 8-3 victory for the Storm. Goals were awarded to Jordan Howe(3), Stewart Chaulk(2), Tanner Ballantyne(2), and Nick Hunter with the few recorded assists going to Stewart, Jordan and Tanner. Sunday was a home game with Bancroft returning the favour of their company. This grudge match turned out to be great entertainment for the home town fans since the Jets gave this Storm team their first loss of the season a few short weeks ago. The home team would score first with a high shot from Jordan and the helpers going to Zach Boice and Tanner B. The Jets would even it up before end of the period but that's as close as they would get. The second period would not find alot of distance between the scores with 2 for the Storm: points going to Tanner Hamilton and Tanner B for goals and Zach, Nick, Stewart and Jordan for assists; and the Jets getting one.

But in the third the gates opened up and our boys would pound in 4 more goals; Jordan(2)and Nick(2) with assists to Stewart(2), Tyler Barry, TannerB, and TannerH. The game would end with a 7-3 victory for the Storm. This weekend the team has been invited to the home of the Barrie Colts at the Molson Centre for a game with the Colts Tyke rep team. This should prove to be more good hockey not to mention the shopping! From the parents and players of the Storm minor novice team, we wish everyone a safe and merry Christmas.

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Small Kai Shin group wins big

KAI SHIN

Special to the Echo

It was a small contingent of Kai Shin Karate North students, led by Sensi Mike Chapman, who made the trip to Mississauga for a tournament on Sunday Dec. 1st. Seven students returned with seven medals.

Diane Hutchings (brown belt) had a great day claiming two of the seven medals, winning a 4th place medal for Kata (a series of offensive and defensive move). She also fought well to win a third place medal in Kumite (sparring). Not to be outdone by mom, Jason Hutchings (a blue belt) also claimed two medals, both fourth place, one for Kata and one for Kumite.

Jason, along with Kyle Seabrooke (a green belt), were in the largest division with 20 students. Kyle fought well to make it into the final sparring match which was to decide 1st and 2nd place.

Both students had two points apiece in a 3-point match when Kyle's punch made contact to his opponent's face resulting in a loss of fight, thus giving Kyle the 2nd place medal.

Also doing a great job in sparring was Brian McNeil (orange belt) who claimed a 2nd place medal. Kevin Windover (brown belt) earned a hard won 2nd place medal for sparring. Garrett Grexton (white belt) had his best showing yet in sparring coming close in a 3-2 loss. Gord Seabrooke (brown belt) also did the club proud with a well done Kata performance.

Evinrude Ski-Doo Supertrax team battles for CSRA

National points in snowy Sault Ste. Marie Snocross

LESTER BROTHERS

Special to the Echo

Luke and A.J. Lester Tally Four Top Ten Finishes in hard fought final rounds

The Canadian Snocross Racing Association's (CSRA) National and Regional Championship Series moved to Sault Ste. Marie last weekend. The event included over 800 entries as the American Snowcross Racing Association (ASRA) joined the CSRA for their season opener at Searchmont Ski Resort. More than a foot of natural snow fell on the race course over the weekend making visibility a challenge and good starts mandatory.

Luke Lester, anxious to defend his national #1 title this season, launched his Steve Charity-tuned Ski-Doo Revs into front row starting positions for all three Pro Finals. Luke aced two of the three qualifying rounds, winning convincingly.

When the green flag flew on Saturday's 600 Pro Final, all but three pro drivers became blinded by a freak, heavy squall which hit just moments before the start. In what turned out to be a single lane final with few if any passes, Luke settled for ninth at the checkers. Many drivers commented they rode most of the race under zero visibility condition. Nonetheless, for all but three riders up front, just staying on the track was a major accomplishment.

In the Pro 440 final Luke pulled a poor start up the legendary Searchmont hill but battled for 15 laps to a respectable sixth at the checkers.

In Pro Open competition, the class which carries the Number One plate, Luke skillfully recovered through heavy traffic after a mid-pack start to a convincing forth at the finish.

While standing are unofficial at this writing, after two national rounds, Luke is in the top two in the National points chase.

A.J. Lester, anxious to prove himself worthy in Pro competition this season, did just that by launching his Steve Charity-tuned Ski-Doo Rev to wins in two Pro Qualifying rounds. A.J. continues to show convincing speed and skill against the best pros in the CSRA and the ASRA.

In the Pro 600 Final on Saturday, A.J. had the same misfortune as 99 percent of the Pro 600 field when he found himself literally blinded in snow dust. A.J. said "Only the first two, maybe three drivers could see. I decided it wasn't worth running someone over and risking injury to simply hold the throttle wide open".

Unhappy finishing 11th, A.J. was philosophical and proclaimed he was simply glad to have finished in one piece.

In the Pro-440 final, A.J. caught an enormous roost early in the race which knocked his ignition switch off. By the time he re-started he had lost too much ground and ended up a disappointing 15th.

Hungry to show his snowflap to the competition, the current CSRA Semi-Pro National and Regional Champion launched hard in Pro Open and battled with his brother for the entire 15 laps. the battle pushed both of them through traffic to an eventual 5th place finish for A.J. at the checkers.

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St. Anthony of Padua Church

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Sun. Dec 22	8:30am	4th Sunday of Advent
Tues. Dec 24	7:30pm	Carol Sing
	8:00pm	Christmas Eve, Nativity of the Lord
Sat. Dec 28	7:00pm	Holy Family of Nazareth
Sun. Dec 29	8:30am	Holy Family of Nazareth
Tues. Dec 31	5:00pm	New Year's Eve Mary Mother of God
Sat. Jan 4	4:30pm	Epiphany of the Lord
Sun. Jan 5	8:30am	Epiphany of the Lord

*Saturday Mass will be at 4:30pm till May *

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We would like to thank the community for supporting our agency since our inception a year ago. Your commitment and generosity has allowed us to implement our BBBS programs and help the single-parented youth in our community in a positive manner. The "Gift of Friendship" is one of the greatest gifts of all. We look forward to maintaining and creating new relationships in the new year.

Have a safe and healthy new year.

Ski Club offers free lessons to members at Glebe Park

sports column

nordic notes

blake paton

Wow! What a great month December has been for the ski enthusiast. Beginning on December first, the skiing has consistently been tremendous, the weather cooperative and the skiers very happy indeed.

It is a pity if you have not been out yet, since this year's December skiing has thus far been the best in recent memory. The grooming at Glebe Park has been top-notch, with grooming for both skate and classic strides being done from early in the month. Do yourself a favour—take advantage of the skiing now.

With great snow comes great challenges, sometimes. Firstly, it is sometimes tricky to get the stride back in shape. It is often repeated that one should take a lesson when starting the sport or getting started again. Efficient technique yields more enjoyable skiing.

To help, the Haliburton Ski Club would like to announce that it is offering free lessons for club members Dec. 26 and Dec. 27 at Glebe Park from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Classic lessons begin at 2:00 with skate lessons beginning at 3:00 both days. Please reserve space by e-mailing bpaton@sympatico.ca or calling 457-5177 to confirm. If you still haven't renewed you club membership, please do so as soon as possible by calling pat Cummings at 754-9569.

A second challenge comes in the form of little aches and pains from muscles working at unfamiliar tasks. These aches and pains tend to pop up in unexpected places: shin, elbow, knee, hand and shoulder muscles tend to complain at the beginning of the season. It is often best to limit the length of the first few outings in the year. Go every day, but listen to your body and cut the length of the effort down a bit from what you would do in mid-season. After a few days you'll find that you're ready for more.

Above all, try to make time for skiing every day. Schedules and weather will conspire to rob you of one or two days skiing in the average week, so if you plan to ski every day, you'll find that rest days take care of themselves.

Enjoy the Holidays! Don't forget the following important Ski Club dates:

- December 31: ski until midnight under the lights at Glebe Park. Ring in the New Year the Ski Club way.
- January 4: First Jackrabbit session and registration meeting. Watch for full details next week.

Curling club celebrates 19th annual Early Bird Bonspiel

Congratulations to our trophy winnners and a big thank you to our sponsors.

Winners of the Early Bird Bonspiel:

A event-Dawson Gray Chartered Accountants Trophy for three game high winners
Pictured on right: Back, skip David Gray, vice Arthur Dawson and front, second Geoff Ainsley, lead Phil Jung.

B event-Bowes & Cocks Realtor-John Parish-Trophy for two game high
skip, Don Wetmore, vice, Tom Harkness, second, Art Cook, lead, Bruce Bozec

C event- Easton's valu-mart Trophy one game high
skip, Reynold Retz, vice, Arnold Retz, second, Gary Roper, lead, Bruce Jaynes.

Organizers thank event draw prize supporters: Delta Pinestone Resort, Colio Estate Wines, Dawson Insurance Brokers Ltd. and Sir Sam's Ski Area.

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MARTHA PERKINS//Echo

Spin doctor

A few weeks ago, the Haliburton Figure Skating Club was delighted when coach Marilyn Leigh arrived at the Dysart arena for a workshop on spinning and jumping. She is the aunt of Elvis Stojko's coach. The skaters really benefitted from her tips – and the way she pushed them to turn faster than they've ever gone before. At far left she works with Megan Bottum, who happened to be celebrating her birthday that day, while at left, Minna Schleifenbaum practises a spin.

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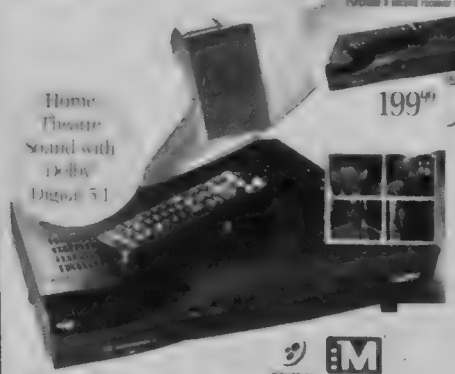

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Marked forests produce bigger yields, county's logging statistics show

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

It may cost more to mark trees for cutting but the investment pays off in greater yields, says the county's logging by-law enforcement officer.

Torben Michalsen was commenting on tree-cutting operations in Haliburton County in 2002 at Wednesday's county council meeting.

For instance, 14 logging operations provided him with information about how much wood they cut in the past six months.

These 14 operations were on 1,000 acres of forest. Of that 1,000 acres, almost half were cut based on tree marking; the other half was cut based on the county by-law's diametre restrictions.

The acreage that was marked provided 6,800 cubic metres of wood. The acreage that was cut based on diametre yielded 4,500 cubic metres.

"It shows that there's a cost involved in tree marking but you get a lot more volume," Michalsen told county council during his year-end report. Loggers make better use of the forest, in part by taking out good firewood.

All told, there were 9,231 acres of forest cut in 2002, up from 7,500 acres last year.

These operations yielded approximately 100,000 cubic metres of wood, almost enough to sustain a large mill for a year.

Utilization of the forest increased in the second half of the year, up to 11.7 cubic metres per acre from 9.3 in the first half.

Only a third of the cuts, however, were done on a tree-marking basis. The county would like that number to increase as a way of ensuring that forests are properly managed.

> "There's a cost involved in tree marking but you get a lot more yield"
> **TORBEN MICHELSON**

But as well as being better for the forests, the numbers indicate tree-marking is good for the loggers' pocketbooks, too.

This is one of the arguments the county will make when it meets with loggers in the new year. At the meeting, county council will also be seeking the loggers' input into a draft new tree-cutting by-law.

The by-law does not force loggers to mark trees for cutting but it does change how trees are measured to ensure they fall within the county guidelines.

"We want to incorporate the feelings of people who work in logging and make them feel a part [of the by-law]," CAO Gary King said at the county council meeting.

"We have to work together or we'll be at loggerheads."

The county has run into a few problems in enforcement when it comes to how the trees are measured. Right now, trees are measured by diametre. The new by-law proposes that circumference be used instead.

As well, King says "we've had some difficulty in the past with some of the people in the industry not filing notices of intent [to cut more than 10 acres as required in the by-law] so we're suggesting a permit system."

The draft update has been circulated to 22 stakeholders who have been asked for written comments. Those stakeholders will also be asked to meet with county council in January.

"The by-law's worked well," King says, "but there's room for improvement. We're just trying to take it to the next step."

Dysart angry with assessors' tardiness

Editor's note: Last week's story about the assessment office's backlog of 900 building permit updates for Dysart et al started on page one but didn't continue elsewhere in the paper. We're sorry about that.

Here are the last few paragraphs of the story.

Since the most valuable property and homes tend to be on the waterfront, those owners are seeing the highest hikes and under the current taxation are carrying most of the tax load that in turn fills the municipal coffers.

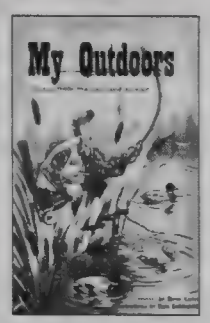
"It's going to be a difficult year," Reeve Murray Fearrey warned. "We can't have waterfront (property owners) paying a couple of thousand (in taxes) while in the village, people with plowed sidewalks and street lights are paying far less. We're going to have to change the rates," says Fearrey.

Tammy McKelvey, Dysart's chief administrative officer, says they have finally been given a list of what the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation has yet to assess and she says staff will be able to pick out the really big ones and direct MPAC to go to those properties first.

Fearrey says a conservative estimate is that the municipality is faced with a $500,000 shortfall at least.

Councillor Leon Jones suggested they hold a special public meeting with representatives from MPAC and the Ministry of Finance, which governs MPAC, along with council and staff to try and sort out their problems with the system. Walker added they should also invite representatives from the lake associations so they could also understand how the system works and have input.

Dysart staff will have a better understanding of the true impact of assessment after MPAC releases to them the municipal numbers.



Steve Galea's collection of outdoors humour columns is available for $19.95 at Master's Books, Under Cover Books, Outdoors Plus and The Echo in Haliburton and Agnew's General Store in Wilberforce

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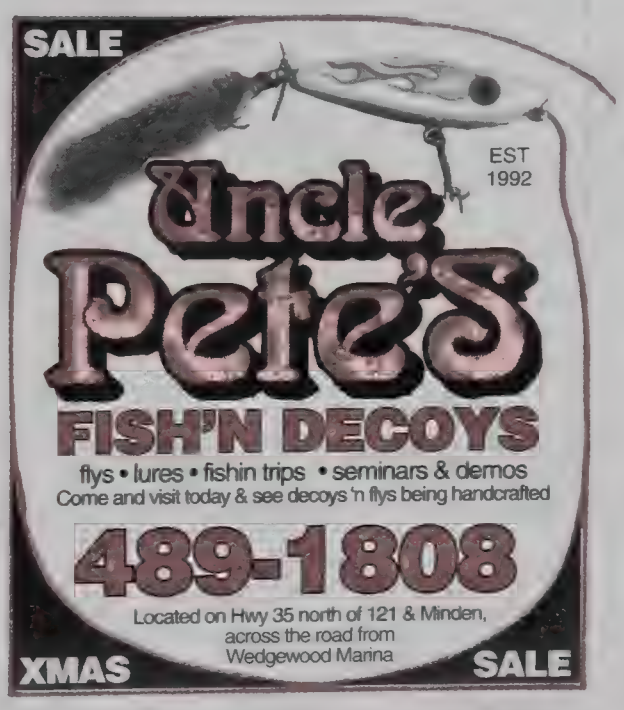

Sustainable Forestry Association moving in a postive direction

from page 9

the interest of our county residences and private land loggers. Further meetings have been held among directors along with consultations with James Ellis and Ross Reay, former long time employees of the MNR.

The forest industry is a part of our heritage in Haliburton and if properly managed, can be a significant economic factor in our future. The harmonious diversified utilization of our forest resource will result in maximum benefits to visitors and wage-earners alike.

It is the ongoing thrust of our Association "To enhance the future of the forestry industry through sustainable harvesting practices to benefit the community environmentally, socially, and economically". Considering the magnitude of the private forest lands of our County, the initiation of an industry -based mechanism to enhance activities in our forests has taken more than a few weeks to develop, but rather several months.

We, as directors of the HHSFA, are pleased with the progress and look forward to a greater economic benefit from improved management of our county's private forests.

Pat Morrison,
Haliburton

New cottager in search of long-lost local relatives

To the Editor:

Any long lost relatives in Haliburton?

I am the adult daughter of Norah Hardy Barnes. My maternal great grandmother, Cassandra hardy married Eldridge Leith of Haliburton. He moved to Toronto and managed a department of the T. Eaton store. Are any of his relatives still alive and well in Haliburton?

We have just arrived here at Williams Landing and would love to expand the family circle.

Elizabeth Rose Barnes Kiddle,
RR. #5, Milton, Ont. L9T 2X9
norahsdaughter@hotmail.com

Good Samaratin's 'pick me up' was appreciated

To the Editor:

Many thanks to the three people (one woman and two men) who helped me when I slipped and fell on the ice across from the Rails End Gallery on Thursday. Apologies if I didn't thank you and I wish you all a Merry Christmas. Thank you to all the good Samaritans of Haliburton.

Peter Sopranik,
Wilberforce

Emergency plan gets high priority

ALLISON TAYLOR
Editor

Lots of talking, training sessions and mock emergencies are some of the things that the county's emergency co-ordinator has to look forward to over the next year.

CAO Gary King is responsible for ensuring the county is prepared for any emergency, said JoAnn Kropf-Hedley, community officer for the southeastern area with Emergency Management Ontario - the Ministry of Public Safety and Security.

The Emergency Measures Ontario Act, or Bill 148, will likely be promulgated in early April 2003, Kropf-Hedley said as a delegation of county council at the November 27 meeting. The act was created in response to the ice storm that hit the province several years ago. "The province and municipalities realized how unprepared they were," she said. "Then after September 11, the ball really got rolling."

Municipalities will have one year after the act is passed to meet the required framework, including having an emergency plan in place.

Co-ordinators for each municipality recently attended a training session on hazard risk management, to learn how to identify hazards and risk. They will attend other training session in the new year.

Kropf-Hedley said that many municipalities have a plan, but they don't perform mock exercises to train staff in cases of emergencies.

"It's really important for people to know their roles during a time of emergency," she said.

The county might run mock training exercises at one point.

King said that the county will not duplicate or plan for emergencies that are specific to any of the individual municipalities.

"Some of the risks may be similar," King said, citing forest fires as an example. He said that the county will focus emergency planning around the county's infrastructure.

King and the emergency committee for the county will work together to identify potential risks and hazards to the county in case of an emergency, such as a forest fire, ice storm or an act of terrorism.

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After four months of intensive study, students of Sir Sandford Fleming College's certificate arts programs hosted open houses to let the world know how much they had accomplished. Drawing and painting students transformed the old MTO shed on County Road 121 into an art gallery. Open houses were also held at the ceramics location at Sisco Centre and the artist blacksmithing shop in Haliburton's Industrial park.

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Wise customers read the fine print: *, **, ♦, ♦♦, ∞, †, ‡‡ These are limited time offers which may not be combined with any other offers except Graduate Rebate and apply to retail deliveries on most new in-stock 2003 vehicles. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Lease/financing subject to approval by Chrysler Financial Canada. See retailer for complete details and conditions. * Cash purchase price excludes freight, licence, insurance, taxes, registration and retailer administration charges and is applicable only to cash purchases of Dodge Caravan 28C. If customer chooses 0% purchase financing, the negotiated price may be higher. Cash purchase price includes factory to retailer incentives. Cash purchase price before GST savings and $500 off is $25,100. ♦, ♦♦ Leases are based on a 48-month lease for Dodge vehicles equiped as described: Caravan 28C and Grand Caravan Sport 28H+XRV+GNC+RBU+CYT. Total lease obligation is: $18,179 with $0 down Caravan; $21,059 with $0 down Grand Caravan Sport. Lease finance interest rate is 3.3%. Kilometres limited to 81,600; charge of $0.15/km for excess kilometres. Monthly lease payment for Grand Caravan Sport is $418. ** Your retailer will take $500 off the price of most in-stock 2003 models, deduct any applicable retailer discount, and then reduce the price by a further 7%. The 7% "GST Break" does not apply to freight, retailer installed accessories, warranties, taxes or administration costs. Offer does not apply to 2003 Chrysler Sebring Sedan, Intrepid, Dodge SX 2.0, all Ram models, Viper and Jeep Liberty. † 0% purchase financing on most 2003 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge vehicles up to 48 months. Example: $25,000/$35,000/$45,000 @ 0% APR/48-month term; monthly payment is $520.83/$729.17/$937.50. Cost of borrowing is $0. Total obligation is $25,000 /$35,000 /$45,000. Offer does not apply to 2003 Dodge SX 2.0, Viper, all Ram pickups and Jeep Liberty. If the 0% financing is chosen, the effective interest rate and the effective cost of borrowing with the forgone GST break and $500 are as follows for the following amounts: $25,000/$35,000/$45,000: 4.29%4.02%3.87%; and $2250/$2950/$3650. Examples based on 0% purchase financing for 48 months. ∞ No payments for 90 days. See retailer for details. ‡‡ DaimlerChrysler will pay your first payment up to a maximum of $500 on most 2003 leases. Offer does not apply to Dodge Ram Heavy Duty or Viper models. ♦, ♦♦, ‡‡ Leases exclude freight, licence, insurance, taxes, registration and retailer administration charges. Δ See retailer for complete details and conditions. ‡ Warranty valid for all new 2003, and all remaining 2002 vehicles, to 7 years or 115,000km, whichever comes first. Some conditions apply. See retailer for details. ® Jeep is a registered trademark of DaimlerChrysler Corporation used under license by DaimlerChrysler Canada Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of DaimlerChrysler Corporation.

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THE ECHO
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Seasons Greetings & Best Wishes for the Upcoming Year

Christmas, a ladder and a 5'3" writer

Put them all together and you have a funny way to relieve all that holiday stress

STEVE GALEA
Special to The Echo

I'VE HEARD IT SAID THAT, for some people, Christmas is the toughest time of year. I believe I know what they mean. Sometimes, things come between you and the festive spirit.

Right now, I'm feeling that way and it's not because I'm lonely or homesick either. No, I've got plenty of loved ones around and many others, dear to me, that are just a crank call away. My reasons for struggling through the Christmas season have more to do with practical matters.

Take ladders, for example. Except during the deer season when tradition dictates that I have to use tree stands, I spend a lot of time and effort avoiding ladders. And since, depending on relative humidity, I tower in and around 5-foot-3, this is not exactly an easy thing to do.

More than most, we short people see ladders for what they are - a horribly cruel prank perpetrated by the same people who invented the top shelf and basketball. Nothing good can come from trying to reach things that you weren't meant to reach.

Unfortunately, a family man could hardly survive at Christmas time without a ladder. Even a fellow lucky enough to have dragging knuckles and the climbing abilities of King Kong would eventually be coaxed up one with an armful of Christmas lights and other things that are designed to ensnare a person somewhere along their climb to the top.

I'm just telling you all this because most of my Christmas misfortunes have originated at elevations where I had no business being and almost all of these lofty heights were either reached with the aid of a ladder or spicy food and an open flame. In the interests of good taste I'll avoid chronicling stories of the latter. Ladders are bad enough.

Of course, since these occurrences seem to bring "tidings of comfort and joy" to my wife, I still hear about them year after year. Her only concession is that she doesn't make me relive them in song and tale. That's why, in our house, they're simply referred to by Christmassy names. It's sort of our little Yuletide code.

Some things I'm too embarrassed to detail. For instance "The Nutcracker Suite" as she now refers to the living room at Christmas time, was named for one incident that I'll not speak of willingly. Suffice it to say that it involved me straddling the top rung of a wobbly ladder in order to place the star on our Christmas tree. The resulting mishap was not pretty and if it wasn't for local Christmas carolers gathered round to observe my mastery of the high notes soon after, I don't believe any good would have come of it at all.

Steve Galea gets a kick out of the funny things of life – including reading his book of collected outdoors humour columns upside down. That's why he can laugh when, on a Christmas tree expedition, he finds himself careening down a hill, ax in hand with a porcupine, moose and partridge cheering him on.

I won't say that it reconfigured me, however, for a while every time I heard carols that referred to "chestnuts roasting on an open fire" I backed away from the woodstove or any other heat source. But enough about ladders for now.

Of course, a person of my incredible timing and agility hardly needs to leave the ground at Christmas to get in trouble.

In fact, knowing what she knows, I find it astounding that my wife would send me out into the world every year with a sharp ax, a toboggan and instructions to fell a Christmas tree. It hardly seems fair to the woodlands creatures or to me.

My last attempt was almost incident free, however, if you discount a mean-spirited porcupine who obviously wasn't a fan of Christmas. Personally, I think the rodent was one of those bah-humbug types. Of course, he wasn't nearly as vindictive as that moose.

Still, when an ax-wielding man descending a steep slope trips on a snag and lands face down in his toboggan, you'd think a porcupine would have enough courtesy to yield the right of way or at the very least take the reins and steer us clear of that hawthorn thicket and snowy cliff.

But no! Instead he abandons ship, leaving me all pins and needles, while I do my best to come to any sort of complete stop that doesn't involve rock cuts or logging trucks, both of which I doubt we would have cleared if not for that partridge in a pear tree that we ran into, whose panicked flapping provided me with that extra lift required.

Up till then it was just a normal Christmas tree expedition for yours truly. The moose is what made it unique, I suppose. It all happened so fast but ,when we passed under him, I ascertained that it was a bull moose and that's why I'm so surprised that we scared him as we did. Thankfully, though, with its outstretched wings, the grouse served as a makeshift umbrella.

Fortunately, the twenty or so pine boughs that flagellated us as we sped through also dried that poor bird off. I'm sure his feathers will grow back.

On the bright side, we picked up enough speed on that icy downhill slope to make it over that open spot in the river. And, to those snowmobilers who kept up to me for a while, no, I don't have a trail pass. Nor do I intend to get one as I only use the trail once a year to get my tree. And that isn't even intentionally.

Besides, I was off it in another hundred yards. You ought to mark those hairpin-turns a little better.

Needless to say, both the partridge and I were only too happy to finally stop, although I just wish it had been a little less sudden. Well, at least spruces are in the softwood family.

So there we were: good luck and careful planning had landed us in the presence of the perfect Christmas tree. It was a flawless 15-foot spruce with hardly a needle out of place — unlike that porcupine that I encountered a few minutes earlier.

I gave it a quick inspection and smiled. It had a slim but sturdy trunk, delicate branches, full foliage and just the right triangular shape. The kids would love this tree and so would Carol. It was as if the Good Lord himself had led me to it. And don't get me wrong, I was grateful for it too. But, believe me, getting down would have been far easier with the help of a good ladder.

Festive spirit? Yeah right, make it a double...

Chamber president thanks volunteers

haliburton highlands

chamber fax

Carol Moffatt
286-2675

President's note

Franka Andriano at Whispering Pine B&B Retreat recently hosted our Christmas Business After Hours. It was a standing room-only crowd of more than 50 people, delicious food by Franka's Delectables - and there were even carolers!

I hope this finds everyone busy with customers, and finding a chance to reflect on the year gone by. As I reflect on this past year I must sincerely thank our staff at the office for their hard work & dedication in getting us through some challenging times. I also want to thank the hard working and loyal members of the Board of Directors who persevered through many long meetings as we pushed our way through this journey. Our work is ongoing and we look forward to the future of our county and our organization with pride and enthusiasm.

On behalf of the Board of the Directors and staff of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce I would like to extend warmest greetings to each of you and your families.

Sincerest Regards,
Jim Henwood, President

Holiday schedule

The Information Centre will be open until 3 pm on Christmas Eve, and will be closed on December 25, 26 and January 1. Please note that the Centre will only be open from 12 noon to 3 pm on Friday, December 27th.

Volunteer update

We extend a hearty "welcome back:" to our Tuesday volunteer Rick Ratcliffe. Rick left us in the spring after several years of dedicated service and we were sad to see him go. But Rick couldn't stand to be away from us . So he has returned to the fold. Rick is our "Mr. Fix It" and we rely on his organizational and problem-solving skills to get us through the week. Thanks, Rick!

Here is our Volunteer Lineup: Tuesday - Rick Ratcliffe : Wednesday - Elinor Hamilton : Friday - Karen Rainey. If you haven't met these terrific folks, drop in and say hello.

And by the way, more volunteers are always welcome!

New minister of tourism on the road

Newly appointed Minister of Tourism Frank Klees is holding Tourism Strategy Stakeholder Consultations around the province to begin the process of crafting a long-term strategy for Ontario's tourism competitiveness.

Several issues were raised repeatedly throughout the day including access to capital, training, pride in the industry (or lack thereof), sustainability of family businesses and the lack of understanding by municipal governments about the economic impact of tourism. .

It was free, for goodness sake

The deadline for FREE listings with Ontario Tourism was Friday, December 13. At last count, only 9 (that's nine) members of our tourism industry signed up. This county is home to 147 accommodation providers, not to mention museums, galleries, events and other related suppliers. This is a very disappointing response to a free opportunity.

Although you've missed the chance to help make the Highlands look great in the printed guide, you can still sign up for the online directory.

Remember: it's not about you versus the guy next door, it's about all of us versus the region next door.

So for those who somehow missed the last two reminders of this offer, simply go to www.tourismpartners.com to register. It's easy. Come on: don't make the Highlands look like it only has nine places to stay and nothing to do.

Plans underway

It's that time of year again - planning and budgets.

We are working on our plans for the 2003 - 2004 fiscal year, which begins on April 1, 2003. It's been a busy year with lots of positive growth but we have a long way to go to be competitive with other tourism regions.

Our uniqueness will bode us well in the short-term, but in the long-term we must carefully consider how we want to grow this community.

Here's some light thinking for you:

What role does tourism play in the planned development of this county?

What role should it play?

How do we grow the community while retaining the foundation upon which our tourism industry is built?

Is tourism something we're committed to protecting long term, or is it something we're doing until other kinds of development come along?

And finally, how do we determine the point at which tourism might be superseded by other kinds of development?

The strategy of the Chamber of Commerce needs to include answers to these questions. Whatever plans we make are inextricably linked with the goals of the municipalities, with other key organizations and with you, the business operators in the Highlands. If we work together with a managed plan at all levels of government and community, there is room for everyone in the Highlands. And room for all of us to succeed. So get involved.

Tourism Marketing is an investment into future growth and development of this county's largest industry. Alone, none of us have all the answers, but together we probably do. We need your input, your expertise, your knowledge and your commitment, so if you have ideas for our future plans, please let us know.

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December 27th
9:00 a.m. to
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Snowboard Demo Day
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HIDDEN VALLEY HIGHLANDS SKI
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Thursday, January 23rd
BANFF MOUNTAIN
Tickets available at both
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Hours:
Dec. 27 9 am - 8 pm
Dec. 28 9 am - 5:30 pm
Dec. 29 11 am - 4 pm
Dec. 30 10 am - 6 pm
Dec. 31 10 am - 4 pm
Jan. 1 CLOSED
Jan. 2 10 am - 6 pm
anon. nfa Tilley Columbia Sportswear Company. TUBBS SALOMON 686 RIDE snowboards Marmot BURTON patagonia

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DARREN LUM/Echo

Early turkey dinner

Young visitors to CHACE Place in Haliburton got an early taste of the feast that awaits them on Christmas when parents and staff hosted a potluck Christmas luncheon on December 18.

2002 "Shine Brightly" Campaign

For the fifth year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies with tags sponsored by gifts from the community. To date this campaign has raised **$53,453.08**. The proceeds will assist the Foundation in the Capital Campaign for the Haliburton and Minden Health Care Facilities.

Thank you to the following businesses and individuals for helping us *"Shine So Brightly"*.

David & Valerie Ashfield
Don & Nancy Ballantyne
T. Robert Beamish - (The WB Family Foundation)
Sandra Bell
Dorothy Mona Benn
Ken and Helen Benstead
John & Ida Bernardi
Everett & Edna Bishop
Charles Black
Richard Blueman
Doug Brown - (Toribrooke Developments Ltd.)
D. Ronald & Bettie Campbell
Rodger & Sally Charlesworth
Eric and Katie Christensen & Patricia Bett
Henry & Beulah Christian
Fred & Barbara Clarke
Howard & Ruth Corbett
Wayne & Janis Cox
Phyllis J. Cranley
Keith & Gail Dalglish
Doreen Davis
Constance Donovan
Mayme Douglas
Richard & Sue Dziura
Maria Fernandez & Dan Farnell
Herb & Dianne Felder
John & Jean Findlay
Carl & Derek Fitzgerald
Jim & Christine Fleming
Jack Foote
Wiliam T. Force
Walter Forderer
Robert Franks
Douglas & Phyllis Gray
Herb & Pamela Hatch
Don & Nanette Henderson
Paul and Dawn-Marie Hicks
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Arvids Vitols
James & Ingeborg Walters
James & Lois Watson
Victor F. Wells
Ernest Winterburn

Thank you to the following individuals who gave gifts to honour & celebrate the life of special people:

Donna Allen - Harold Deacon
Don & Ruth Benson - Pearl Benson
M. Bockmaster - Gordon T. Bockmaster
Alice Bradford - Arnold Broodbent
Flora Buna - Family Buna
Rev. John Burgess - Lucy & Mary
Keith & Aileen Coates - Our Son - Bob
Marjorie Cope - Eric
Wally & Reta Crofts - Reginald Burk
Doris Gordon - J. Dudley Gordon
Edgar & Evangeline Hancock - Nancy Elaine
Karen Harding - Madeleine Harding
Winnifred Hutcheson - HHHS Foundation
Ila Jordan - Our Friends Bill & Beatrice Everson
Jennie Kerswell - Margaret McAfee (My Sister)
Doug & Sadie Lavender - May McDonald
Eric & Mary Loucks - Hariet Loucks
Robert & Cheryl Magee - Robbie Maven
Mary J. Mahaffy - Elizabeth Pearson & Children
Dorothy McIntyre - Bill Cowen
Allan Porter - Arthur Ray Porter
Cliff & Yvonne Prentice - Our friends Bill, Marilyn, Chad & Brandon Skelding
Maxwell & Lillian Quackenbush - George & Joan Anthon
John & E.G. Richardson - Mr. & Mrs. E.C. Warne
Sally Rose - Leonard A. Rose
Grant & Norma Scheffee - Glen Scheffee
Ronald D. White - Jeff Brittain
Ruthe Willis - Alvin S. Newton

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation sincerely thank Our Honourary Chairmen for Our 2002 ***"Shine Brightly"*** campaign, **Dr. David Fiddler** and **Dr. Bob Heyes**.

If you would like to help us ***"Shine Brightly"*** your gift can be sent to **Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or Box 30, Minden, ON K0M 2K0** or you can deposit your gift in the donation boxes at the Minden and Haliburton Facilities.

A Foundation For The Health Of The Highlands

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION

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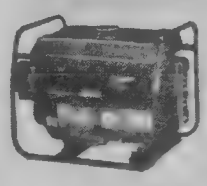

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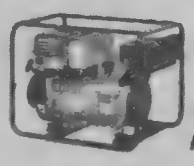

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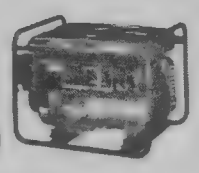

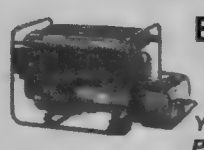

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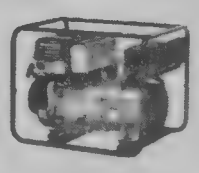

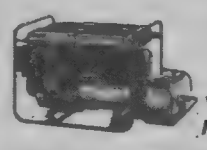

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Celebrate the evening in Heatherwood with family and friends.
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A succulent 5 course dinner in Heatherwood.
7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.
Dancing to a DJ in the Grand Ballroom after dinner.
$99.00*

New Years Day Eye Opener Brunch
Join us for our fabulous New Years Day Brunch in Heatherwood.
9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
$19.95*

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New Years Eve Family Feast
Kid friendly buffet dinner.
Seatings at 5:00 pm. and 7:00 p.m.
Live magician during dinner. Live magic show at 9:00 p.m.
Bonfire and hot chocolate 10:00 p.m. until midnight.
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Open New Years Eve - Reserve Now!

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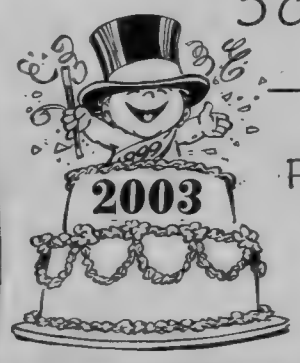

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December 31st, 2002

HOT & COLD BUFFET
ALL NIGHT LONG
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LIVE BAND featuring "BAD JAZZ"
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Starting December 20th

Fabulous lake view
Warm & cozy
Great menu

Featuring traditional holiday treats or tempt your taste buds with spicy flavours
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• Cajun Calamari
• Brazilian Shrimp
Check us out!
We promise to warm you inside & out.
Reservations required

South Kashagawigamog Lake Road
457-1300

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Steak & Pasta House

Special New Year's Eve

MENU

Beef Wellington
14 oz. T-bone Steak
Chicken Oscar
Fresh Homemade Pasta Dishes
8 oz. Black Angus Top Sirloin
with Jumbo Garlic Broiled Tiger Shrimps

All above include choice of Soup, House or Caesar Salad to start.

Special Dessert Menu

BY RESERVATION ONLY
call 489-1939

Seating at 5 p.m., 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m.
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Comedy
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MONDAY DEC. 30 &
SATURDAY JAN. 4
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THURS. DEC. 26 &
THURS. JAN. 2

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RESORT

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Pepper Bacon Wrapped Roast Pork Loin,
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$29.95 adult / $14.95 kids 12 & under

Christmas Dinner
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25
Traditional Roast Turkey,
Roast Prime Rib Of Alberta Beef,
Grilled Pork Loin Steak,
Tranche Of Fresh Atlantic Salmon
$29.95 adult / $14.95 kids 12 & under

Limited Seating Available!
RESERVE NOW!
705-457-2000

New Years Eve *"A Formal Affair"*
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31
Surf & Turf Buffet & Decadent Dessert Buffet
DJ Dance with party favours and champagne at midnight
$49.00/pp

New Years Day Country Buffet
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1
SEATINGS AVAILABLE BEGINNING AT 10:00AM
Freshly Baked Pastries & Muffins, Fruit Bar, Fresh to Order Omelets & Fluffy Belgian Waffles, Eggs Benedict, Country Bacon, Farmer's Sausage and Decadent Dessert Table & more...
$16.95 adult / Kids 12 & under $8.95

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NORTH KASHAGAWIGAMOG RD - HALIBURTON - 457-2000

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Learn wood burning techniques

This January, two wood burning workshops will be held in Bobcaygeon that will be beneficial to the many people in the area who burn wood to heat their homes.

Three million people in Canada heat their homes by burning wood. People who live in rural areas are twice as likely to heat with wood than city dwellers. The residential wood combustion sector contributes to particulate matter and ground level ozone which directly impacts the air quality of all Canadians.

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has taking a leadership position on a new initiative to reduce emissions from residential wood burning appliances by specifically engaging in a national public education campaign. The Burn It Smart campaign follows up on the success of regional pilot projects earlier this year in seven communities across the country. More information is available at the Web site http://www.burnitsmart.org.

Poor burning techniques can cause fires as well as release harmful pollutants that can cause damage to both health and the environment. Learning what stove to purchase, how to install it properly, what wood to burn and even how to stack it can help the consumer protect their health and save money.

Local experts from the Bobcaygeon area, along with environmental organizations, will be hosting the two workshops this January. The first workshop on January 5 will be part of the Sustainable Ecological Alternatives for Living (SEAL) monthly meeting. The organization is a good fit to help host the workshop as it promotes reducing air pollution locally. It's at 2:30 p.m. at the Full Cup Café, 50 Main Street. The second workshop, on January 25 at 10 a.m. will take place at the Bobcaygeon Arena and will be able to provide more details on how and why to Burn It Smart!

Correction

The Echo inadvertently left out some winners in the Haliburton Legion's annual Remembrance Day contests. We print them now with apologies.

Essay Contest

Senior Category (Grades 10-O.A.C.) - No entries.

Intermediate Category (Grades 7,8 and 9), 1st - David Wright, 2nd - Cassandra Jodoin, 3rd - Katelyn Patterson. Honourable mention goes to Nicholas Greaves.

Junior Category (Grades 4, 5 and 6), 1st - Emily Roberts, 2nd - Chloe Kitcheman, 3rd - Kristine Barry, Honourable mention goes to Ariah Boots.

Poster Contest- Black and White

SeniorCategory (Grades 10 - O.A.C.), 1st - Amber Wright, 2nd - Lisa Wright.

Intermediate Category (Grades 7,8 and 9), 1st - Siobhan Creelman, 2nd - Tamara Bain.

Junior Category (grades 4,5 and 6), 1st - Brittany Griffin, 2nd - Nicole Jennings, 3rd -, Matt Duchene, Honourable mention goes to Justin Greaves, Catherine Judge and Alyssa Loucks.

Primary Category (Grades 1,2 and 3), 1st - Jennell Bilodeau, 2nd - Madison Barton, 3rd - Tessa Iles.

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Website: www.donaldlange.com
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at Countrywide Realty
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Sheila and Ron Stackhouse
457-1700

Local Army Cadets honoured with promotions

C. McKENZIE 2Lt.

Special to the Echo

On Dec. 3 members of Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corp #1129 paraded before their Deputy Commanding Officer, Capt. Mike Brodhagen C.D., receive well-deserved promotions. Promotions in the Canadian Cadet movement are based on merit as well as the level of training achieved.

Promoted to Private: S. Bonham, K. Dobson, S. Foster, G. Griffin, E. Guy, S. Harding, C. Huron, N. Nesbitt, Z. Pasley and N. Robinson.

To Corporal: J. Chislette, M. Giles and J. Robichaud.

To Master Corporal: T. Barton, S. Chow, T. Hogan, and T. Lumley.

To Sergeant: M. Flowers, A. Leahy, and N. Roberts.

To Warrant Officer: R. Mitchell.

To Master Warrant Officer: L. O'Connell.

It was also confirmed that the local Corp was the winner of the Lord Strathcona Award for the second year in a row. This award recognizes the best small (less than 90 members) Cadet Corp in Eastern Ontario. Once again hard work and dedication have brought this prestigious award to this small group of enthusiastic Army Cadets.

The Army Cadet Training Program has been designed to develop and strengthen the Cadets qualities of leadership, self-confidence, initiative, and ability to work with others, the ability to make decisions and to take responsibility. These objectives are achieved through the activities of Military Training, Leadership, Citizenship and Physical Fitness.

Haliburton Army Cadets train every Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the local Legion. Youth between the age of 12 and 19 years who have an interest in learning new skills in a challenging environment are invited to give Army Cadets a try!

SUBMITTED/Echo

Skating joy: Nancy Ballantyne's daughter learns how to skate at a public skate at the Dysart et al arena last week.

SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE HALIBURTON ECHO

Mattresses On Sale For Christmas

All your plumbing needs... ...and more

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(705) 457-2638

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Parklane resident shares a carol for Christmas

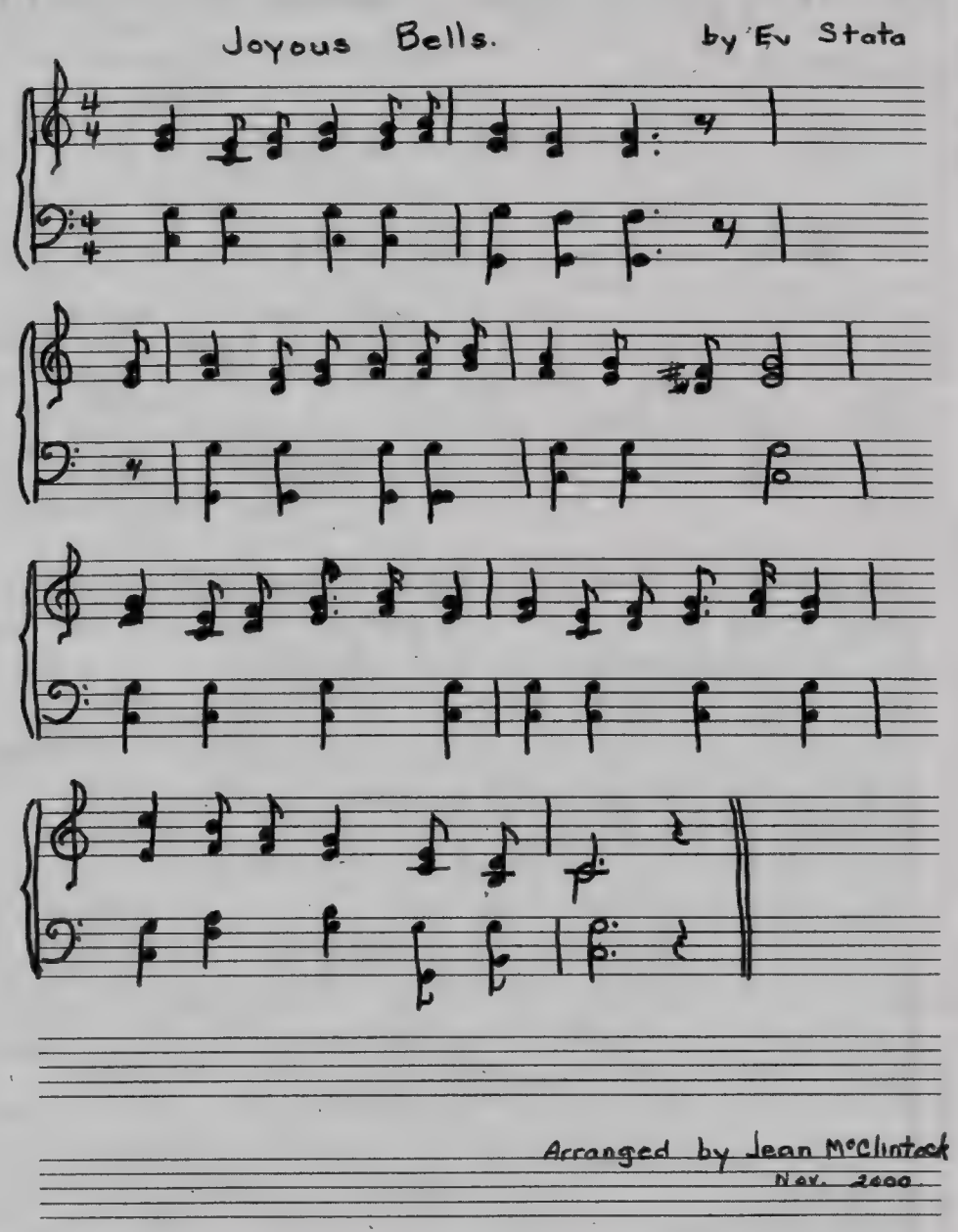
by EV. STATA

Ring Joyous bells, sing a joyful tune
The glad news of Christ's birth will be in this room
Ring out O Holy Night, sing out that starry sight
Tell how He's coming here soon

Sing Joyous bells, sing a glad refrain
The glad news that He is coming again
Ring out the first Noel, born King of Israel
Tell how He's coming to reign.

Ring Joyous bells, sing a happy song
The glad news that He will be here ere long
Ring out O Deck the Halls, sing out right to the walls
Tell how He does us no wrong.

Sing joyous bells, ring that golden sound
The glad news that He is all around
Ring out while shepherds watch, tell how His heart was touched
Tell how salvation is found



Notices Notices Notices Notices

Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: HICKS ET AL
Lots 8 & 9 Concession 2, Boshkung Lake
Geographic Township of Stanhope

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands has by resolution declared parts of an original shore road allowance lying in front of Lots 8 & 9 Concession 2, Boshkung Lake, in the geographic Township of Stanhope, in the Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton, to be surplus.

TAKE NOTICE that the council of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands proposes to enact a By-Law to stop-up, close and convey to the abutting property owner(s) those parts of the original shore road allowance lying in front of Lots 8 & 9 Concession 2, Stanhope Township described as follows:

FIRSTLY: All and Singular those certain parcels or tracts of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Geographic Township of Stanhope in the County of Haliburton and being composed of parts of the original shore road allowance lying in front of Lots 8 & 9 Concession 2, Boshkung Lake, more particularly described as Parts 1, 2 & 3 on a Plan deposited in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of Haliburton County as Plan 19R-7403.

The proposed By-Law will come before the said Council for consideration at its regular meeting at the Algonquin Highlands Municipal Office, North Shore Road, on the 16th day of January, 2003 at the hour of 11:00 a.m., and at that time, the Council will hear in person or by his/her counsel, solicitor or agent any person who claims that his land will be prejudicially affected and who applies to be heard.

Dates: November 25, 2002

Gerald C. Bain, C.A.O.
Township of Algonquin Highlands
RR #2
Minden, ON K0M 2K0

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF HALIBURTON

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF the Municipal Act ; and
IN THE MATTER OF a proposed by-law of the Corporation of the County of Haliburton to stop up, close and convey to the adjoining landowner, a portion of the road right of way, situated in Lots 33, 34 and 35 Concession XI, in the geographic Township of Dysart.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 300(1)(a) of the Municipal Act, R.S.O.1990, c.M.45 as amended, that the Council of the Corporation of the County of Haliburton proposes to consider, and if deemed appropriate, enact at its meeting to be held in the Council Chambers of the Administration Building on Newcastle Street, in the Town of Minden, Ontario, on January 22, 2003, a by-law to stop up, close and convey the portions of road allowance more particularly described as follows :

Part No.2 as shown on Reference Plan No.19R 6602, a plan of survey prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Limited, deposited in the Land Registry Office on February 26th, 1999, and,

Part No.8 as shown on Reference Plan No.19R 3239, a plan of survey prepared by Bishop and Wilson, deposited in the Land Registry Office on February 4th, 1985.

The aforementioned plans of survey are available for perusal at the Roads Department Office, 3 Saint Germaine St., Minden, Ontario during regular office hours. (8:30 am. to 4:30 pm. Monday to Friday)

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that before passing the said by-law at its meeting to be held as noted above, the Council of the County of Haliburton shall then and there hear in person, or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to be heard.

DATED at the Township of Minden Hills this 23rd. day of December, 2002.

Brian W. Mulholland, Operations and Approvals Officer
(705) 286-1766 office
(705) 286-4881 fax no.

Legionnaires find much to keep them busy

community news

wilberforce legion br. 624

Mel Smith

December 13th - Karaoke involved singing the blasts from the past. The participants were all in fine voice.

December 14th - Appreciation Dinner. A special thank you to all the people who worked so hard at preparing the dinner – your hard work and efforts were more than appreciated by all those who attended and enjoyed the dinner. Keep up the great work!

December 14th and 21st - There were 10 extra meat draws for turkeys and hams. Members seemed to enjoy the extra draws.

December 15th – The Santa Claus Parade was enjoyed by all and the Colour Party looked great , despite freezing cold weather.

New Year's Eve Dance - The cost per person will be $15, or $25 per couple. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Legion.

January 1st – New Year's Day Levy: All members are invited to the Legion for fellowship and eggnog.

January 18th - The Pat & Phyllis Gallen Trout Derby. Last year this derby was a great success and I am sure it will be again in 2003. After the fish derby closes everyone is asked to come back to the Legion for the weigh -in. All the entry fee money will go out in prizes. First prize is 50% of all entry fees. Second prize is 30% of all entry fees. Third prize is 20% of all entry fees.

The four lakes to be fished are: Esson Lake, Farquhar Lake, Grace Lake and Wilbermere Lake. M.N.R. rules will apply. If you have any further questions call the Legion (705) 448-2221.

January 25th – The Robbie Burns Dinner. The Ladies Auxiliary is already busy planning for this. More details will eb available as we get closer to January the 25th. It was a festive affair last year and is expected to be the same this year.

Our prayers for a speedy recovery go out to Bob Stevenson, and Jim Belmore who is at home. Pat Furneaux is recovering at home. Get well soon because your friends miss you.

Pool night is every Tuesday – 7:00 p.m. at our Branch. This has just been started so come on out for a fun night. The next pool date is January 7; see you there.

Dart night is held every Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at our Branch. This is a fun night out and joining a team is not necessary. Just come out and enjoy!

Euchre is held on all Thursdays at 1 p.m. except the first Thursday of month and then it is customarily held on the Wednesday at 1 p.m. Complicated? Not really – just come out and enjoy the fellowship. Cost only $2, which goes toward prize money.

This June will mark the 30th Anniversary for Branch 624 and we were still looking for old pictures we could borrow, from way back when. If you have some, please call or leave them with the barsteward. Thank you in advance.

Notices Notices Notices

MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL
P.O. Box 389, Haliburton, Ont. K0M 1S0
705-457-1740 Fax: 705-457-1964
email: dysart@on.aibn.com

"The Heart of the Highlands"

NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING
TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION
TO PURCHASE THE SHORELINE ROAD ALLOWANCE
MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

DATE: Monday January 13th, 2003
TIME: any person who wishes to address Council should contact the Planning Department for a delegation time.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, Municipal Office, Haliburton, Ontario.

APPLICATIONS:

The Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al has by resolution declared the following parcels of land to be surplus. These parcels of land are parts of original shoreline road allowances, located in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton.

1. Applicant: Harcourt Park (Lease: McEnaney)
   Location:
   - Allen Lake.
   - In front of Lot 3, Concession 7, Township of Harcourt.
   - Defined as Part 1 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson, OLS, and dated March 30th, 2002, available for review in the Planning Department.

2. Applicant: Stewart
   Location:
   - Haliburton Lake.
   - In front of Lot 13, Concession 3, Township of Harburn.
   - Dignan Drive.
   - Defined as Parts 1 and 2 on a preliminary plan of survey prepared by H. Curry Bishop, OLS and dated September 19th, 2002, available for review in the Planning Department.

3. Applicant: Williams
   Location:
   - Grass Lake.
   - In front of Lot 10, Concession 8, Township of Dysart.
   - Penninsula Drive.
   - Defined as Parts 1 and 2 on a preliminary plan of survey prepared by T. A. Bunker, OLS and dated September 2nd, 2002, available for review in the Planning Department.

4. Applicant: Spittle
   Location:
   - Redstone Lake.
   - In front of Lot 28, Concession 10, Township of Guilford.
   - Defined as Parts 1 and 2 on a preliminary plan of survey prepared by Paul Wilson, OLS and dated August 5th, 2002, available for review in the Planning Department.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al proposes to consider and if deemed appropriate enact at its meeting as noted above, a by-law to close, stop-up and convey the portions of shoreline road allowance described above.

BEFORE PASSING the said by-law, the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al shall at its meeting to be held as noted above, hear in person or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be affected by the said by-law.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION is available for review from the Planning Department at the Municipal Office during regular offices hours (9:00 am. to 5:00 pm. Monday to Friday).

DATED at the Township of Dysart, this 21st day of November, 2002.

Patricia E. Martin
M.C.I.P., R.P.P.
Township Planner

Trillium Lakelands District School Board

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ratepayers and supporters of the Trillium Lakelands District School Board can find copies of the Board's 2001/2002 audited Financial Statements posted on its website at www.TLDSB.on.ca
The following 2001/2002 financial statement package is available:
- Auditors' Report
- Balance Sheet
- Revenue Fund, Statement of Operations
- Capital Fund, Statement of Operations
- Reserve Funds, Statement of Continuity
- Notes to the Financial Statements

Further information can be obtained by contacting Susan Kirkpatrick at Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Corporate Office
P.O. Box 420, 300 County Rd. 36
Lindsay, ON K9V 4S4
(705) 324-6776
1-888-526-5552

MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL
P.O. Box 389, Haliburton, Ont. K0M 1S0
705-457-1740 Fax: 705-457-1964
email: dysart@on.aibn.com

"The Heart of the Highlands"

MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART et al
REQUIRES A
MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

We require an individual for the position of municipal Law Enforcement officer who will be responsible for the enforcement of Municipal by-laws, retrieval and caring of stray dogs, parking meter maintenance and support for the Building department.

The successful candidate must be able to work with minimal supervision, have excellent communication and conflict resolution skills, experience working on a computer and a willingness to work variable shifts. Preference will be given to candidates who have previous experience in municipal law enforcement. A detailed position description is available upon request.

The salary for this full time position will be commensurate with qualifications and includes an excellent benefit package.

Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit a detailed resume to the undersigned by noon on Friday, January 17, 2003:

Municipality of Dysart et al
P.O. Box 389
Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
705-457-1740

Attention: Tammy McKelvey, A.M.C.T.
CAO/Clerk
tmckelvey@county.haliburton.on.ca

We thank all applicants who apply but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Personal information is collected under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Christmas concerts warm the heart

community news

harcourt

Valerie Smith
448-3640

This week has been a great week. It is a week that I enjoyed very much, and only wish I could be in more than one place at a time. It is the week for school winter concerts in our schools, which make for a most exciting time!

I had the delightful chance to get to Wilberforce and Cardiff E.S. concerts. The programs at each school offered up a great variety of numbers. Throughout the presentations one thing that never ceases to make me chuckle is watching the children get ready to make their presentations. A wiggle worm here, a wave to Mom and Dad, a serious one, a happy one or shy one there. They add that little extra touch which you expect and love. There was one little boy at the Cardiff presentation who stood at the front of the Church with a brilliant smile upon his face, enthusiastically waving. Finally he loudly called out "Mom!" Mom looked up and waved back, bringing an even greater smile to his face. I knew then what it meant to have a "smile a mile wide." And, of course, it is always great to see all the parents, grandparents, family and friends who come out to enjoy and share this momentous time with the children. With enthusiastic applauding and cameras flashing they show their support and encouragement to the young entertainers.

The grade 1/2 class at Wilberforce E.S. came up with the most unique number. Gone was the song *The Twelve Days of Christmas* and its Partridge in a Pear Tree to be replaced by *The Twelve Dogs of Christmas* and its poodles, basset hounds and cocker spaniels. Also in this number gone were the faces of smiling little girls and boys to be replaced by dog faces. (see photos on page 36), At Cardiff E.S., Mr. Stephen's Grades 4/5/6 Sammy the Christmas Snake was the new, unrivaled performance.

WES Principal Birdie Murphy at the school's Christmas concert

Something, that youdon't see in many communities is the seniors citizens actively working with, and helping, school children. The Seniors hosted the concert for WES, gave to each child a bag filled with candy and fruit, and served up wonderful refreshments after the concert. Senior member, Elsie Lewis, graciously welcomed Wilberforce Elementary School families and friends and provided music for some of the presentations and filled the interludes with delightful Christmas music.

Cardiff Elementary School Principal, Mrs. Penhale remarked there could not be a more appropriate place for a concert than at the Cardiff United Church. As I sat there watching the warm sunlight stream through the stained glass windows illuminating the performers . I could not have agreed with her more.

Both concerts were just great and I wish I could have gotten to see more of the children concerts. I know these two have given me some very, fond memories to carry me through the festive season.

In Harcourt we have members of the Recreation and Development Committee gearing up for New Year's Eve. Don't forget Timber Tom and the Cross Cuts will be at the Harcourt Community Centre to welcome in the New Year. The Year 2003 marks Harcourt' s 100th Birthday . Advance tickets are $30 per couple or $15 single. Tickets at the door will cost $35 per couple or $18 single. A full buffet supper will be served at 11 p.m. and everyone will receive party hats and favours. Get your tickets early. Call Ross Covert 448-3196, Steve Donaldson 448-2208 or Deb Shatraw 448-3155.

The following is a story that my daughter Dawn recently shared with me and now I would like to share it with you. It touched me deeply because of a friend who tragically lost her little three-year-old grandson not so many months ago. It is a story that I feel is very appropriate for this time of the year. It read much like this.....

There was a man who punished his three-year old son for wasting a whole roll of expensive gold foil Christmas wrapping paper. Money was scarce in their home and he became very upset when his son used the paper to decorate a box to put under the Christmas tree. Much to the father's surprise, on Christmas morning his little son brought the box to him and said, "This is a special gift for you, Daddy." The father was then really embarrassed about getting so mad at him earlier.

But, when he opened the box, he found it to be empty. Once again he became upset and yelled at his son. "Don't you know, when you give someone a present there is supposed to be something inside the package?"

The little boy looked up at his father with tears in his big blue eyes and said in a small, quivering voice, "Daddy, it's not empty. I blew kisses into it until it was all full up."

Once again the father was ashamed. He knelt down and put his arms around his little body, hugged him tight and said, "I am so sorry sweetie, please forgive me?"

A short time later a senseless accident took the life of his little son. The father was devastated, broken-hearted so he kept the gold, foil covered box near him. Whenever he was upset, discouraged, depressed or faced some difficult problem, he would open the box and take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of his little, blond haired cherub.

When you think about it, each of us has been given a golden box filled with unconditional love and kisses from our children and grandchildren. Is there a more precious possession anyone could hold?

May your home be filled with love, happiness and childlike wonder this Christmas and always.

Valerie

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Haliburton Highlands
Dogsled Derby
January 11 & 12, 2003
(snow date of February 22 & 23)
Over 50 competitors will set out from Head Lake Park, cross the frozen lake, go through Glebe Park and link up with the snowmobile trails that go by the Haliburton Landfill before doubling back and crossing the finishing line in Head Lake Park.
Volunteers are needed to help out on race weekend. Jobs include trail work, team handlers, assisting with timing, etc. Volunteer meeting Thursday Jan. 9th at 7pm, Dysart municipal building.
After Christmas please bring your Christmas tree to the Caboose in Head Lake Park. We will be using them to mark the race course across Head lake.
For more info contact Tanya McCready & Hank DeBruin
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Anglican Parish of Minden - Kinmount

Sunday, December 22 - Advent 4

St. Paul's, Minden	8:00 am	Holy Communion
	11:00am	Sung Holy Communion & Sunday School
St. Peter's, Maple Lake	9:15 am	Sung Eucharist & Holy Baptism
St. John's, Irondale	9:30 am	Prayer & Praise Communion
St. James', Kinmount	11:15am	Sung Family Eucharist

Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

St. Paul's, Minden	7:00 pm	Family Holy Communion
	11:00pm	Midnight Eucharist Carols
St. John's, Irondale	7:00 pm	Family Christmas Service
St. James', Kinmount	9:00 pm	Family Christmas Communion

Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

St. Peter's, Maple Lake	10:00am	Family Christmas Communion

"In a world at war, come and feel the peace and love of God"

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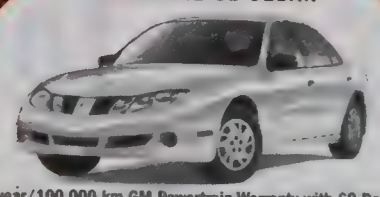

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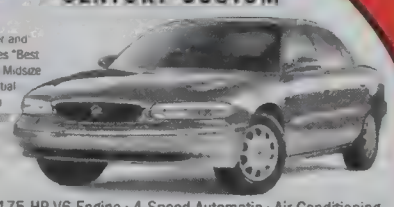

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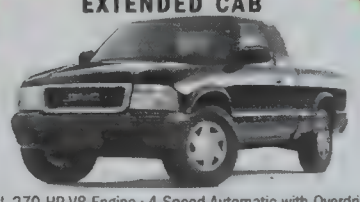

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Try keeping a resolution to be healthy in 2003

You can make gains by rethinking 'vague' weight-loss goal for the new year

from the HEALTH UNIT

specil to The Echo

Area residents who resolve to be healthier in the New Year should try a new approach to get to where they want to be in 2003.

Instead of "vague promises to lose weight, cut back and exercise more" in the New Year, a local Dietitian suggest making healthy lifestyle choices that have a chance of surviving beyond January 2nd.

"I think a lot of times the food we enjoy over the holidays comes back to haunt us," says Rosie Kadwell, a Public Health Dietitian with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit. "We're 'guilted' into setting unrealistic weight-loss goals for the New Year that are quickly put away like holiday decorations, only to be unpacked next season."

To break the cycle, Kadwell says people are further ahead if they use a "3R's" approach – realistic, rationale and rewarding – to setting healthy resolutions for the New Year. This approach doesn't mean stopping them from enjoying what the holidays have to offer, she adds.

Here's how:

• Change the view of holiday eating. Take the focus off the short holiday season and put it onto the rest of the year. Healthy eating is not about one food, meal, day or even week. It's about establishing a healthy eating pattern over time. So it's the other 51 weeks of the year that really count. Adopting healthier habits throughout the year means you'll be able to enjoy traditional holiday fare without the guilt.

• Don't fall into the January diet trip. Weight-loss ads offering quick fixes seem to escalate in January at the very time that people are most vulnerable to them. Years of scientific research along with real-life experience prove that diets simply don't work. No matter what fancy package they're in, weight-loss diets involve reducing calories to levels that are often far below what people need to be healthy. The human body responds by conserving calories at all costs. It's not difficult to understand why most dieters gain the weight back when the diet inevitably ends.

• Focus on health not weight. In today's society, thinness is often pursued in the name of health. The truth is that there are a range of weights that are healthy for any given height. In fact, the pressure to be thin can actually be damaging to physical and mental health, often leading to a negative body image and low self esteem, and can even contribute to eating disorders. Focusing on health rather than weight allows people of all shapes and sizes to achieve their healthy lifestyle goals.

• Start small. Rather than changing their lifestyle overnight, people should begin with small steps. Contact the local Health Unit for copies of Canada's Food Guide on Healthy Eating and Canada's Physical Activity Guide to healthy Active Living to get started. Try setting weekly goals such as eating the recommended five to 10 servings of vegetables and fruit each day.

Above all, Kadwell says area residents should forget the all-or-nothing mindset.

"Depriving yourself of special holiday foods or feeling guilty when you do enjoy them isn't part of a healthy eating strategy and certainly is not part of the holiday spirit," she adds. "Amidst the festivities and excitement of the holidays, remember that the best gift you can give yourself, your family and friends is your good health."

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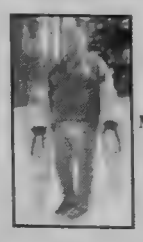

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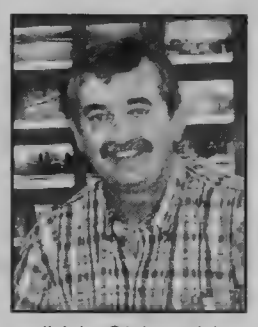
Happy Holidays



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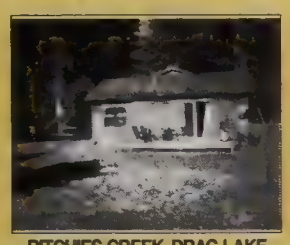
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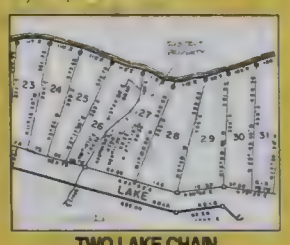
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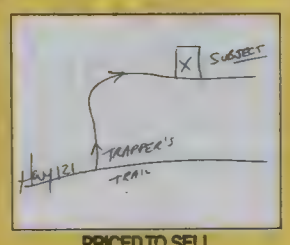

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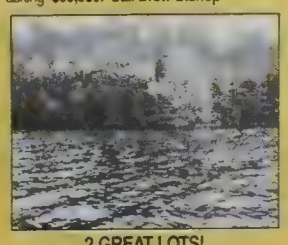
Nicely treed lot on year round road with deeded access to Miskwabi Lake. Driveway in. Great start for home of cottage! . Only **$14,500. Call Suzanne James or Andy Mosher**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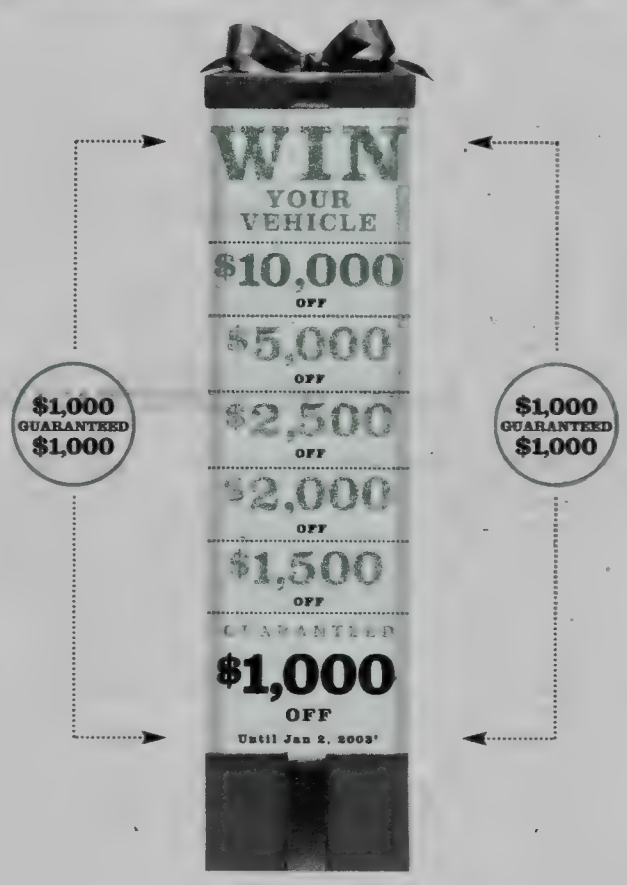

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2002 Chevrolet Malibu Ranked Best Entry Midsize Car in Initial Quality in the U.S.[◊]

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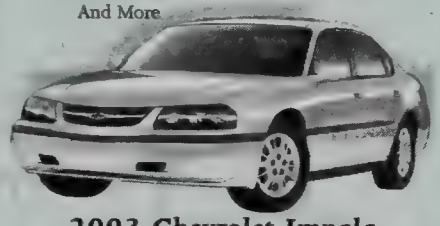

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3.4L 180-HP V6 Engine • 4-Speed Automatic • Air Conditioning • Power Locks/Windows/Mirrors/Trunk • Remote Keyless Entry • Cruise Control • 6-Passenger Seating • CD Stereo

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FIVE STAR SAFETY RATING.
Chevrolet Impala has earned a 5-Star front crash test rating.[▲]

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¥No purchase necessary. Contest open to Canadian residents only who have reached the age of majority in their province of residence. Contest closes January 13, 2003. Prizes can only be applied to the purchase or lease of most new 2002 and 2003 vehicles purchased and delivered on or before January 13, 2003. Doubled guaranteed minimum award can only be applied to the purchase or lease of vehicles purchased and delivered on or before January 2, 2003. See your GM dealer or visit www.gmcanada.com or call 1-800-GM-DRIVE for full contest rules. GM employees and family members, GM suppliers, GM Dealership employees and Basic Fleet program are not eligible for the Ring In & Win activity but are eligible for the award of $1,000 on eligible models. *Based on a 48/48/48/30 month lease. A down payment or trade of $2,000/$1,810 /$3,020 /$3,295 is required. Annual cost of borrowing of 1.9%/1.9%/3.4%/4.4% per annum. Option to purchase at lease end is $5,861/$9,805/$11,525/$24,486 plus applicable taxes. Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, $0.12 per excess kilometre. Other lease options available. †Offer applies only to 2002 vehicles delivered on or before January 13, 2003. Exceptions include 2002 Full Size Passenger Vans & Express LT-Y91, Full Size Cargo/Cutaway Vans, Silverado 2500/3500 Regular and Extended Cab (non C6P), 2500/3500 Silverado Crew & Chassis Cabs, and 3500 HD Chassis Cabs (Carryover Style). †▼*Freight ($795/$875/$975/$1,025), licence, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and taxes not included. Applies only to vehicles delivered on or before January 13, 2003. ▼The SMARTLEASE monthly payment and the GMAC purchase finance rate are not available with and are not calculated on the "Cash Purchase Price" shown. The difference between the price for the SMARTLEASE/GMAC Purchase Financing offer and the "Cash Purchase" offer is deemed under provincial disclosure laws to be a cost of borrowing, whether or not the same represents actual interest, and is required to be expressed as an annual percentage which is 8.92%/6.69%/4.04%/1.31%. ‡0% purchase financing on approved GMAC credit only for most 2002 and 2003 vehicles. Term up to 48 months for most 2003 vehicles. Term up to 60 months for most 2002 vehicles. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $10,000 at 0% APR, the monthly payment is $208.33/$166.67 for 48/60 months. †¥‡Offers apply to the purchase of most 2002 and 2003 new or demonstrator models and apply only to qualified retail customers in Canada. 0% financing and contest do not apply to 2002/2003 Corvette, 2002/2003 Cadillac, 2002/2003 Hummer, 2002/2003 Full Size Express/Express LT-Y91, 2002/2003 Full size vans-cargo/cutaway, 2002/2003 Silverado Regular and Extended Cab 2500/3500 (non C6P), 2002/2003 Silverado Crew Cab 2500/3500, and 2002/2003 Silverado 3500 HD Chassis Cabs (Carryover Style) and 2002 Silverado 2500 series with C6P. 0% financing also does not apply to 2003 Tahoe, 2003 Suburban and 2002 Silverado Regular Cab (non C6P). Limited quantities of 2002 models available. ▼Offers apply to 2003 new or demonstrator models of Cavalier VL Sedan R7A/Malibu R7A/Impala R7A/Avalanche 2WD R7D equipped as described. †¥*▼‡Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet • Oldsmobile Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais and excluding Northwestern Ontario). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Dealer trade may be required. Limited time offer that may not be combined with other offers. See your dealer for conditions and details. ▲Test conducted by the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). **Visa International Service Association/TD Bank and GM, licensed users of marks. Trademark of TD Bank. ◊ The 2002 Chevrolet Malibu was the highest ranked Midsize Car in J.D. Power and Associates 2002 U.S. Initial Quality Study.™

Christmas joy at Wilberforce Elementary School's annual concert

Wilberforce Elementary School-students sang their hearts out for friends and family at the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre in Wilberforce on Tuesday, Dec. 17.

Top right: Jessica London follows along with a Christmas song.

Top left (l-r): Niki Wingrove wispers into Emina McNeil's ear.

Above (l-r): Jaimie Dack, Alana Coty, Shenese Alden are happy about Xmas.

Above left: A Grade 4 class does the Christmas shuffle.

Left: Santa visits with WES students while EA Melanie Storey stands off to the left smiling.

Below, (l-r): Taylor Lewis, Kelsey Maracle, Malcolm Hughes and Stan Riley are captivated by the performances.

Below left: kindergarten class singing, led by teacher, Barb Davies

Photos by Darren Lum

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Muscle Plus - M, W at 12 p.m.
M, W at 5:15 p.m.
Camp - M. W at 6:15 p.m.
Alison Logan:
Step & Tone - Tues at 7:15 p.m.
CA

270 HEALTH &FITNESS

PHYSICAL JOURNEYS FITNESS - Register Now!! Winter Programs: January 6th - March 27th. 2 locations: Minden and Haliburton (New location - Millennium Lifestyles). Phone Lori Kah 457–3224 - Certified Fitness Trainer.
CA

STEP IT FITNESS – Classes start Jan. 6th for 12 weeks. Cardio, Resistance, Stretching. Certified Instructors. Call 457–1052 (Jane) for info.
CA

290 COMING EVENTS

CELEBRATE NEW YEARS EVE
at the
Carnarvon Bowl
Hwy. 118 & Hwy. 35.
Featuring:
The "Ya BaBys"
Tickets available at:
Carnarvon Bowl
Carnarvon Garage
The Hair Lounge
Halls Lake Market
or call
489–1963.
$25.00 per person
Light Buffet
Party Favors
Champaign at Midnight.
Come out and support the Stanhope Firefighters and have
Fun ...
Fun ...
Fun..!
CA

Haliburton County Community Radio Association (CANOE FM)
Annual Meeting
Thursday, January 16, 2003
7:30 p.m.
Haliburton Curling Club, upstairs lounge.
For more information please call
Dave Sovereign at
457–9603.
CA

KARAOKE
Friday nights
at
The Rockcliffe Tavern
Minden
CA

Harcourt Community Centre
NEW YEARS EVE DANCE
Band: Timber Tom and the Cross Cuts:
Advance tickets $30. per couple or $15. single
Tickets at the door $35 per couple or $18 single
For advance tickets call:
Ross Covert 448-3196
Steve Donaldson
448-2208 or
Deb Shatrau 448-3155

Haliburton
LEGION BINGO
NO BINGO ON
WED. DEC 25th
WED JAN. 1st
WED JAN 8TH
SEE YOU ON WED JAN 15th
JACKPOT $400.00
HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY
THE BEST IN THE NEW YEAR
THE BINGO COMMITTEE

290 COMING EVENTS

NEW YEARS EVE DANCE
West Guilford Recreation Centre
December 31/02
9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Hot and Cold Buffet
D.J. Jamie Bacon
$30.00 a couple
Tickets call 754–1457
Pick up tickets at
West Guilford Shopping Centre
CA

300 ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEAR SANTA: This year for Christmas I would like a gift certificate from THE WILD ORCHID BISTRO (Thai Food) at Gambell's Antiques, Main St., Minden, across the bridge, 286–1532. Visa, M/C, Amex or Interac.
CA

DID SANTA FORGET? Season passes for Highlands Summer Festival are still available at pre-Christmas prices, just $55. for all four shows. Purchase your pass at the Cranberry Cottage Country Store in Haliburton, The Storeroom in Minden or call the box office at 457–9933. Do it today because the special price ends January 15, 2003.
CA

EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTRE – Holiday Season Hours: Tuesday, Dec. 24th, 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 25th, CLOSED; Thursday, Dec. 26th, CLOSED; Friday, Dec. 27th, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 30, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 31st, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Wednesday, Jan. 1st, CLOSED. Best Wishes for a Safe & Happy Holiday. 457–2020.
CA

The winner of **Monmouth Recreational Figure Skating Club raffle,** Licence #M265555, held Dec. 13 is **Mr. Laurie Landry of Wilberforce.**

WEST GUILFORD RECREATION CENTRE
is available for:
Parties, Weddings, Banquets, Anniversaries, Showers, Stags
Bingo every Mon. 7:15 p.m.
Euchre every Tues. 7:00 p.m.
Full kitchen, bar and hall facilities available at reasonable rates. Call Cheryl Cooper **(705) 754–3210.**
CA

390 PUBLIC NOTICES

PLEASE BE ADVISED as of December 2, 2002, I will no longer be held responsible for any debts incurred by Mary Lou Packard. **Carl Packard.**

400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FAYE VIOLET McDONAGH deceased.

All creditors and others having claims against the Estate of FAYE VIOLET McDONAGH, late of the township of Dysart, in the County of Haliburton, who died on the 29th day of October, 2002, are required to file the particulars of such claims with the undersigned solicitors for the said Estate on or before the 31st day of January, 2003.
AND take notice that after the last day named, the assets of the said Estate, will be distributed among the persons hereto entitled having regard only to the claims of which the Estate Trustee/Executrix for the Estate being Mabel Everall, shall have notice.
DATED at Haliburton, Ontario this 9th day of December, 2002 by BISHOP AND ROGERS, Barristers and Solicitors, P.O. Box 472, Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0. Solicitors for the Estate Trustee of the Estate of Faye Violet McDonagh.
CA

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FOR SALE

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW about Ontario communities is now at your fingertips! Check out the Web's pre-eminent, unique guide: InfoOntario - Your information gateway to community information, news, events, festivals, attractions and local business. www.InfoOntario.com

HEALTH

DRUG/ALCOHOL REHABILITATION. Help a loved one who's losing everything to drugs or alcohol. 90-180 day, 75% success. Ask about our guarantee. See www.aei.net/~narconon. 1-877-782-7409 Toll-free.

HELP WANTED

INTERNATIONAL CAREERS TEACHING ENGLISH. 5-day TESOL certificate program sponsored this semester in Kingston, Mississauga, Barrie, Windsor, Kitchener/Waterloo, St. Catherines, Whitby, Hamilton and London. CALL 1-888-246-6512. www.intlcollegeoflinguistics.com.

ENROLLMENT AGENTS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME. Canada's First (est. 1960) & Largest Scholarship Plan (R.E.S.P.) is experiencing EXPLOSIVE growth due to Federal Support of 20% Canadian Education Savings Grant (CESG) which gives families up to $7,200 per child. With excellent Training & Management support, you will be insured SUCCESS earning extremely generous commissions in this EXPANDING industry. Vehicle and self-motivation à must. Call Rick Toll-Free 1-866-401-6846

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PERSONALS

If you have an alcohol or drug problem, information about treatment services is available. Dial toll-free 1-800-565-8603. Drug and Alcohol Registry of Treament (DART) www.dart.on.ca

If you think you have a gambling problem, call for information about services that can help. Dial toll-free 1-888-230-3505. Ontario Problem Gambling Helpline (OPGH) www.opgh.on.ca

DIVORCE SURVIVAL STRATEGIES...Before spending large sums on legal fees, call THE FAMILY LAW CENTRE to understand your rights & obligations. Our lawyers will present you with your options & offer smart & proven strategies to help reduce your legal fees, safeguard your assets & defend your child custody & access rights. Don't be a victim! "Separate Smart"..Toll-Free1-866-879-3529.

REAL ESTATE

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400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE ETHEL LACRISHA MITCHELL

All creditors and others having claims against the Estate of ETHEL LACRISHA MITCHELL, late, of the Township of Cardiff, in the county of Haliburton, who died on or about the 9th day of November, 2002, are required to file the particulars of such claim with the undersigned solicitor for the said Estate on or before the 31st day of December, 2002.
AND TAKE NOTICE that after the last date named, the assets of the said Estate will be distributed amongst the persons entitled hereto by the Executor/Administrator of the Estate, having regard only to the claims of which the solicitor below shall have notice.
DATED at Haliburton, Ontario this 3rd day of December, 2002. RAYMOND G. SELBIE, Barrister, Solicitor, P.O. Box 186, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0.
CA

The Echo Classifieds

440 THANK YOU

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to my family for the lovely 80th Birthday Party they gave me at Staanworth Terrace. To my relatives, friends and neighbours for all the cards, phone calls and gifts, Rev. Jim and the congregation of Zion United Church in Carnarvon. Many thanks and God Bless, **Helen Skelding.**

THANK YOU – To the lady, the fireman and the other gentleman, I would like to thank all of you for coming to my assistance on Tuesday, Dec. 17 when I fell on the ice in Valu-Mart's parking lot, hitting my head. Thank you **Aileen Tosh.**

457-1037

440 THANK YOU

The family of the late DORIS BARKWELL would like to thank family and friends for their support and kindness during our mother's illness and passing. Many thanks to Dr. Gammon and the staff of the Haliburton Hospital for their care. Thank you to Gordon Monk Funeral Home for their kindness during this time. Special thanks to all of the clergy that took part in a wonderful service. Thanks also to all the ladies who helped with the luncheon at the Kinmount Baptist Church after the service. Doris was a very active member of the Kinmount Baptist Church for over 60 years. She was a very kind and generous woman who touched everyone she met. She will be greatly missed by her family, friends and community. **Jane, John, Dan and families.**

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THE ECHO Classifieds

Call 457-1037 to place an ad

Call 457-1037 or Fax 457-3275

440 THANK YOU

The family of the late MARILYN COWAN would like to thank friends and relatives for their support and kindness during her illness and passing. Special thanks to Dr. Conway for her care and home visits, to the nurses and staff at the Haliburton Hospital for their excellent care, to Kirsten and Barry of Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home for their exceptional services, to Reverend Harry Morgan for his warm tribute, and to the Haliburton U.C.W. for the reception and luncheon. We are overwhelmed by the flowers, cards and donations. Marilyn will be greatly missed by her family, friends and "extended families". **Those we cherish will always live on in memory. Russell, Kim and Paul, Chris and Kim and Families.**

450 IN MEMORIAM

BLIGHT, JENNEFER – In memory of Jennefer (Kirkpatrick) Blight who passed away (Dec. 26, 2001).
In loving memory of a beautiful daughter and mother. We miss your bright smile and all the joy you brought to our hearts. You may be gone but not forgotten.
Sadly missed by **mom and dad, her four children, sisters and brothers, nieces and nephews, and the rest of the family members.**

JOHNSON, EDITH – In loving memory of my dear Mom who passed away Dec. 25, 1994.
Though tears in my eyes do not glisten,
And my face is not always sad.
There is never a night or a morning
But I think of the Mother I had.
Not a day do I forget you.
In my heart you are always here,
For I loved you and miss you
As it ends another year.
Missed and forever loved. **Darlene.**

JOHNSON, EDITH – In loving memory of my dear wife Edith who passed away December 25, 1994 at 7 p.m. after 57 years, 3 months, 10 days and 3 hours of a wonderful marriage.
In our hearts your memory lingers,
Sweetly tender, fond and true
There is not a day, dear Edith
That we do not think of you.
John and Family.

JOHNSON, EDITH – In memory of our Gramma and great Gramma Edith Johnson who passed away Dec. 25/94.
Always a smile, instead of a frown
Always a hand when one was down
Always true, thoughtful and kind
Wonderful memories you left behind.
We love and miss you every day and cherish our memories. **Love, Patti, Ryan and Cole, Kim and Rick, and Angela and Tony.**

450 IN MEMORIAM

SANDERSON – In loving memory of parents and grandparents Joan who passed away on Dec. 30th, 1997 and Wilbur who passed away on Jan. 16th, 1985.
Your presence we miss,
Your memory we treasure,
Loving you always,
Forgetting you never.
Fondly remembered by her **daughter Judy (Wayne) and grandchildren Steve and Heather of Kincardine and son John (Linda) of Kitchener.**

YOUNG – In loving memory of a dear father, William who passed away Dec. 29, 1993. A dear mother Daisy (Hillis) who passed away Dec. 13, 1948. A dear step-mother Doris (Stroud) who passed away Dec. 12, 1989.
Loving memories grace our days,
For the gift of life, love and hope
We give God praise.
Lovingly remembered **Aileen and Gene.**

460 OBITUARIES

AT REST
M. AUDREY ELSTONE
Passed away peacefully at the Highland Wood, Haliburton on Friday, December 20, 2002
At the age of 93.
Beloved wife of the late Russel. Dear mother of Donald and his wife Jean, Douglas and his wife Betty, Valerie and her husband the late George Nettleton, Peter and his wife Gwen, John and wife Lynette. Loving grandmother of 9 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. Dear sister of Helen Lytle and the late Harriet Loucks. Friends were invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday. Funeral Service in the chapel on Monday, December 23, 2002 at 11;00 a.m. Spring Interment at the Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery. Reception followed at the Ingoldsby United Church (downstairs). Memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

CA

The ECHO Classifieds 457-1037

460 OBITUARIES

AT REST
MARILYN (nee Barry) COWAN
Passed away at home with her family by her side on Wed., December 11. 2002
In her 70th year.
Beloved wife of Russell Cowan. Dear mother of Kim and her husband Paul Wilson of Haliburton, Chris and his wife Kim Cowan of Haliburton. Loving grandmother of Lauren, Adam, Jeffrey, Hilary, Brady and Paige. Dear sister of Lola (the late William) Sims, Bernice (Percy) Dunford, Lloyd (Marion) Barry. Fondly remembered by her family and friends. Friends were invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden, Ontario from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Thursday. Then to the Haliburton United Church for Funeral Service on Friday, December 13, 2002 at 11 a.m. Spring Interment at the Evergreen Cemetery. If you wish to make a donation in Marilyn's memory, they can be made to the Canadian Cancer Society or to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF).
Our Mom
A light in the distance,
You will always be,
For you my friend, my mom
Are the world to me...
And when we feel,
That we can't go on,
You will always be here,
To help us along.
So follow the light,
No distance too far,
And I will be with you,
Wherever you are.
Our days will be brighter,
Our nights not as long,
A light in the distance,
Will help us go on.
Love, your Family

CA

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community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

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• **Haliburton County Home Support** has volunteers just waiting to give seniors 55+ or physically disabled adults a Security Check Phone Call. If you know of anyone who needs a phone call once a day, please call Judy at 457-2941.

• **Haliburton County Home Support is considering another trip to the wonderful musical, Mamma Mia.** If you are interested in seeing Mamma Mia, please call Adel Barnes at 48-2838.

The Haliburton Highlands Prostate Cancer Support Group meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m., in the Fireside Lounge at the Highland Crest Senior Citizen's home in Minden. For info. please contact Rick Ratcliff at 286-6699.

• **Climax Climbing Club** - every Tuesday evening at Camp Medeba in West Guilford. 6:30 - 8 p.m. for Parents and Children under 13 years, and 6:30 - 9:30 for teens and adults. Drop-in indoor rock climbing. For more information contact Greg Shantz at Family Services 457-5345.

• **Every Monday: 9:30 - 12:00. Ongoing free ESL** (English as a second language) classes and tutoring. Call Haliburton Highlands Learning Program at 457-3430. Ask for Jane.

• **Volunteers needed for local mediation service.** Help foster conflict resolution in your community. Free training is provided for all volunteer mediators. For more detailed information, please call 457-3499 extension 608.

• **Ontario Breast Screening Program -** for women 50 years and over, screening on Thursdays and Fridays by appointment only at Ross Memorial Hospital. No doctor referral needed. Call (705) 328-6175.

• **Adult Badminton: now until May 2003 -** Archie Stouffer Public School. Monday 7:45 p.m. - 9:45 p.m. For more info call Lois 286-1765.

• **Hand Drumming Instruction** with Terry Cowen, Thursdays 6:30 - 8:30 at YWCA. A drum is not necessary. For info call Erin at 754-4618. Everyone is welcome.

• **Scottish Country Dancers** meet at J.D. Hodgson School, Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Beginners and singles welcome. Phone 286-1218 or 447-2509 for more information.

• **Weight!! TOPS - Take Off Pounds Sensibly** will help you lose those excess pounds. TOPS is a non-profit, affordable weight loss organization promoting "Sensible eating and peer support." For local chapter information please call Lynn (705) 696-3582. What do you have to lose!!

• **Now to May 31, 2003: Indoor Walking:** Are you an early riser who likes to have a morning constitutional - but hates walking outside in the snow and cold? The Heart and Stroke Foundation welcomes you to join them on morning walks through the halls at Archie Stouffer Elementary School from 7:30 to 8:15 and at the Haliburton Highland Secondary school in Haliburton from 7:15 to 8:15. It's free. For more information call Morris Duff at 286-6079 or Al Gostock at 457-3362 or Jacqueline and Kelly Metcalfe at 457-3756. Be wise - exercise!

• **Dec. 30: Please join Home Support** at 1:00 p.m. for Contract Bridge on Mon., Dec. 30. Call Ida for more information.

• **Dec. 30, 31 & Jan. 1st: Dorset Recreation Centre will be Closed** - Happy New Year!

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editorial@haliburtonecho.on.ca., or brought in to the office. **Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date.**
NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events and in the Highlands.

Warm Christmas Wishes

Agents: Troy Austen, Linda Baumgartner, Rosalind Bagg, Ken Barry, Linda Beachli, Peter Brady, Fred Chapple, Vince Duchene, Fred Gardner, Julie Gray, Bill Kulas, Cathy Lancia, Andy Pristol, Tom & Gail Tempest, Melanie Vigrass. Missing Agents: Norm Harrison, Rick Lowes, Erwin Roithmeier, Ted Vasey,
Support Staff: Tammy Thompson, Brenda McKinlay, Veronica Lazar, Laura Fitzell, Karen Nimigon, Diane Dennie, Sue Marshall

With the Holiday Season upon us, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you who have made our year a special one. Warm friendships and newly found relationships continue to make our business a pleasure. There is no time more fitting to say Thank You and to wish all a very Happy Holiday Season.

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